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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 64 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1944 TEN CENTS

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Gov't Plan for Demobilizing Aids Studios

Studios Drafting Plans For Returning Workers

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 1.—The War Department's plans for demobilizing servicemen by a point-system of selection largely relieved Hollywood studios of the major problem involved in restoring their old jobs or equivalent employment to the more than 6,000 now in service.

The point-system, together with related standards of selection adopted by the military, provides for a trickle of returning workers, instead of the stream that had been contemplated, and thereby simplifies the task of returning workers to their places in production.

The point-system also appears to

(*Continued on page 6*)

Clark Named WB Canadian Head

The appointment of Ralph H. Clark as Warners' general manager for Canada, succeeding Wolfe Cohen, who has been promoted to a foreign department sales post with headquarters at the home office, was announced at the weekend by Ben Kalmenson, Warners' general sales manager.

Clark joined First National shortly after the company was organized in 1917, coming to New York from San Francisco to handle the Eastern sales territory. He was named manager

(*Continued on page 6*)

Theatre to Show War Art for U.S.

An exhibition of 100 paintings of "The Army at War" will be exhibited by theatres in 28 cities, beginning with a three-week show at the Roxy here on Oct. 11, according to an announcement made here over the weekend by Charles P. Skouras, chairman of an executive committee of film and Army heads sponsoring the event on behalf of the War and Treasury Depart-

(*Continued on page 7*)

1,502 Hollywood Players at War

Hollywood, Oct. 1.—More than 6,000 peacetime employes of production were in the Armed Forces at the last count, taken this month by the Association of Motion Picture Producers. There were 1,502 players, 143 directors and 230 writers.

The studio-by-studio count of all personnel in service follows: Columbia, 289; 20th-Fox, 755; M-G-M, 1,090; Monogram, 129; Paramount, 525; Republic, 134; RKO, 224; Universal, 418; Warners, 720.

Travis Fears Film Attacks

Merwin Travis, general manager of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, here from Hollywood to confer with CIAA officials, called for combating at the peace table such discriminatory legislation as Latin-American countries might seek to impose against the American industry to foster their own film industries. "The war has made all countries cognizant of the power of films and there will be a tendency to promote their own film industries by the enactment of legislation affecting the importation of pictures made here," Travis said.

30 to 45 GB Houses Hit

From ten to 15 per cent—between 30 and 45—of the more than 300 Gaumont-British theatres in England were destroyed by German air raids up to the period of robot bombing, Larry Kent, recent appointee to the GB board of directors, representing Spyros Skouras and 20th Century-Fox, disclosed at the weekend. Subsequent reports, Kent said, indicate that an unknown number have since been demolished by the robot bombs.

Kent, who together with Mark Ostrer, in London, compose a GB post-war planning and theatre operating committee, said that as soon as building restrictions are lifted in England, the circuit will inaugurate a large-scale rebuilding program of all houses destroyed or damaged, and will rehabilitate those properties that have

(*Continued on page 6*)

Mayer Made Griffis Aide in Red Cross

Arthur L. Mayer, independent exhibitor, War Activities Committee executive and civilian film consultant to the Secretary of War, has been named deputy commissioner of the Red Cross for the Pacific Islands area, according to an announcement made here at the weekend jointly by

(*Continued on page 6*)

Upwards of Year to Make Structural Theatre Changes

Theatres forced to make structural alterations under New York State's proposed building code revisions will be given a year in which to comply with the law, and longer in the case of major changes, if the legislature adopts recommendations passed here Friday by the State Labor Department's advisory committee on places of public assembly.

A move to fix an absolute minimum of one year, made by Patrick J. Geracci, Northwestern representative of the American Guild of Variety Artists, was opposed by Henry Anderson of Paramount, who suggested that various time limits be set for different types of occupancy. John Coggeshall, industrial code referee, shared this view, noting that, for example, a house required to build a

(*Continued on page 6*)

Schine Trial Faces New Postponement

Buffalo, Oct. 1.—It was reported during a recess in the Schine anti-trust trial here today that proceedings here will be adjourned Oct. 16 for an indefinite period to permit the appearance of Justice Department and other attorneys in court in connection with the long dormant Crescent case. Meanwhile today saw the return to the defense counsel staff of Saul E. Rogers of New York, following an illness.

First witnesses are scheduled to be called when the trial opens tomorrow.

Jurisdictional Fight Pends For 'Collarites'

7,000 in Film Offices, Plus Salesmen Involved

A jurisdictional battle within the AFL, which may eventually affect more than 7,000 film company office workers already organized by the American Federation of Labor, is expected when the newly chartered AFL Office Workers International Union seeks to take jurisdiction over the three principal AFL "white collar" groups in the industry. Also seen involved are many recently organized film salesmen who have been seeking an IATSE charter.

The new office workers international was chartered by the AFL executive council at a recent meeting in Chicago. Although several AFL international unions, including the teamsters and hotel and restaurant workers have received exemptions for

(*Continued on page 7*)

RKO M'grs' Union Wins in SLRB Vote

Managers and assistant managers of the 41 RKO theatres in the Metropolitan New York area designated the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild as their collective bargaining representatives in a State Labor Relations Board election held here at the weekend. The vote was 51 for the union and 44 voting for no union, with four votes challenged. George Dunn, manager of RKO 81st Street Theatre, is chairman of the union.

The SLRB's original ordering of

(*Continued on page 6*)

Contest to Spur Theatre Bond Job

National fan magazines, cooperating with the industry's Sixth War Loan committee, will conduct an exploitation contest with $5,000 in prizes going to exhibitors, as an incentive to encourage showmen to stimulate the development of ingenious promotional methods by which they can sell more bonds, John Hertz, Jr., publicity di-

(*Continued on page 6*)

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Personal Mention

CLIFF WORK, vice-president and general manager in charge of production for Universal, is due here from the Coast.

•

HAL HORNE, director of advertising - publicity - exploitation of 20th Century-Fox, and CHARLES SCHLAIFER, assistant director of the three departments, left for the Coast on Friday. LOUIS SHANFIELD, of 20th-Fox's art department, and W. J. McHALE of the advertising department also left for the Coast at the weekend.

•

MURRAY SILVERSTONE, 20th Century-Fox foreign sales vice-president, left Mexico City at the weekend for Hollywood. He is expected to arrive here about Oct. 10.

•

IRVING LUDWIG, film buyer for Rugoff & Becker, and MRS. LUDWIG announce the birth of JACQUELINE SUE, born Friday, at the Kew Gardens General Hospital.

•

JAY EMANUEL, administrative official of the 6th War Loan Drive, will arrive from Philadelphia today and set up headquarters at the WAC office.

•

JACK COHN, N. B. SPINGOLD, A. MONTAGUE and A. SCHNEIDER left over the weekend on a business trip to Columbia's Coast studios.

•

CARL P. YORK, general manager in Scandinavia for Paramount International Films, has arrived in New York from Stockholm.

•

ROBERT S. WOLFF, managing director for RKO in London, left the Coast for New York at the weekend on the *Superchief*.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, head of Universal advertising-publicity in the East, is expected back from the Coast today.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, left here yesterday for a week's visit to Oklahoma City.

•

RODNEY BUSH, exploitation manager of 20th Century-Fox, left over the weekend for Chicago and Omaha.

•

HARRY GOLD, United Artists Eastern division manager, was a White House visitor late last week.

•

HERBERT WHITE, 20th Century-Fox manager in Cuba, has arrived here for home office conferences.

•

W. J. HANEY, operator of the Milan Theatre, Milan, Ind., is vacationing in New York.

•

GEORGE DEMBOW of National Screen is scheduled to fly East from here on Tuesday.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

IT is not the purpose of this discourse to dispute the wisdom of Allied States and the PCCITO in approving the Department of Justice's proposals for an amended consent decree. Presumably they have weighed program and alternatives to their own satisfaction and have cast their vote accordingly.

However, it would seem that there is considerable merit and authority to the questions and objections to the Department's proposed amendments to the decree raised during the past week by the Southeastern Theatre Owners Association and MPTOA. It may be assumed that, having approved the proposed decree amendments, Allied and PCCITO have asked whatever questions concerning the proposals they believed to be pertinent to the best interests of their members, and received acceptable replies. Presumably, from here on in, no further questions need be asked by Allied and PCCITO members.

What those questions and answers may have been, and whether they covered the considerations raised by STOA and MPTOA last week, are not matters of record. Therefore, the fact that they have been raised—publicly—by the latter two organizations and, consequently, may bring forth a public reply from the Department of Justice, impresses as being a genuine service not only to the members of STOA and MPTOA, but also to the thousands of exhibitors identified with other organizations and additional thousands not identified with any organization.

Nothing so controversial and debatable, and yet so universally applicable to exhibition, as the proposed decree amendments should be disposed of in star-chamber sessions attended by a handful of exhibitors and their representatives. The subject warrants, and ought to have, the widest possible discussion and publicity—narrowly, in the best interests of exhibition; broadly, in the best interests of the industry. As Nat Williams, president of STOA, warned members of that association: "It will be useless, if this decree is adopted and you find it's your house that's on fire, to start hollering at your association. We will be able to offer no help then."

Among the questions raised concerning the proposed decree amendments the most pertinent were addressed to those having to do with Sections 8, 9, 10 and 11. STOA and MPTOA point out that their application is not exclusively to the five consenting companies nor to their affiliated theatres, but to all exhibition. The potential dangers to all of the elimination of clearance between theatres in substantial competition with each other is pointed out. Perhaps Allied and PCCITO have the answer to that. If so, why hasn't it been given to the remainder of exhibition, which remains properly concerned?

The undesirability of airing the terms of film deals in open arbitration hearings was cited. Perhaps it isn't as bad as it appears to be, but if so, why isn't it? Is it something that a fraction of exhibition, but not all of exhibition, is entitled to know?

Further, it was pointed out in connection with the theatre divorcement proposal that Attorney General Biddle has said that "no discrimination" will be shown in the enforcement of the anti-trust laws and that the Government is on record in the Griffith case as taking the position that a monopoly in any community, however small, affected inter-state trade in motion pictures.

Haven't Allied and PCCITO any closed situations represented within their ranks? And if so, do they have the answer to that one? We ask only because other exhibitors still seek the answer.

•

Pointed up by MPTOA was the likelihood of continuance of "small block selling" because of the proposal to perpetuate trade showings, uniformly ignored by exhibition. Not touched upon was distributors' contention that single picture selling will be the inevitable result of the proposed amendment to Section 5.

Do Allied and PCCITO advocate small-block selling without cancellations? Or is it simply that they know the answer to that, too? STOA and MPTOA are to be congratulated for having raised these questions publicly. It is to be hoped that they will be as diligent in obtaining the answers and making them available to all of exhibition.

Coming Events

Today — Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, South Jersey unit, Fall luncheon-meeting and installation of officers, Walt Whitman Hotel, Camden.

Oct. 3—Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario meeting, King Edward Hotel, Toronto.

Oct. 3-4 — Kansas City Theatre Owners convention, Muehlbach Hotel, Kansas City.

Oct. 5—Luncheon and war emergency meeting, Allied of Illinois, Chicago.

Oct. 6-9—Theatre equipment dealers' and manufacturers' "war meeting", Hotel Bismarck, Chicago.

Oct. 9-11—Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan annual meeting, Detroit.

Oct. 16-20—Annual business conference, Altec Service and Altec Lansing, Hollywood.

Oct. 17—Society of Motion Picture Engineers semi-annual banquet, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Oct. 17—West Virginia Theatre Owners' meeting, Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston.

Oct. 17 — Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina annual meeting, Charlotte.

Nov. 11—Motion Picture Associates Sixth War Loan dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.

Nov. 14 — 'Night of Stars,' for United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 20-Dec. 16—Sixth War Loan campaign.

Nov. 23-25 — National Variety Club meeting, Statler Hotel, Washington.

WB Field Ad Men to Meet Here Today

Warner Theatres' advertising and publicity zone men will confer here today on Fall product. Joseph Bernhard, general manager, will address the meeting, with Harry M. Kalmine, assistant general manager, and Harry Goldberg, director of advertising-publicity for the circuit. Mort Blumenstock, Eastern advertising and publicity head in the East, will also speak.

Field men who will attend include: J. Knox Strachan, Cleveland; Dan Finn, New Haven; George Kelly, Newark; Charles Smakwitz, Albany; Irving Blumberg, Philadelphia; Jim Totman, Pittsburgh, Frank LaFalce, Washington.

M-G-M M'grs Resume Home Office Visits

Home office visits of M-G-M branch managers will be resumed today. Due here are: Sam Shirley, Midwestern district manager, Chicago; D. C. Kennedy, Des Moines manager, and H. A. Friedel, Denver.

Due Oct. 9 are: J. P. Byrne, Central district manager, Detroit; J. F. Willinham, St. Louis manager, and C. J. Briant, New Orleans.

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BALLYHOO!

There's the Romance of American Showmanship in M-G-M's campaign on "American Romance"—

KING VIDOR'S Production "AN AMERICAN ROMANCE" Starring BRIAN DONLEVY with Ann Richards, Walter Abel, John Qualen, Horace McNally Photographed in Technicolor Screen Play by Herbert Dalmas and William Ludwig Produced and Directed by King Vidor • An M-G-M Picture

OHIO
INDIANA
WEST VIRGINIA
KENTUCKY
—and then the whole nation!

Never before such coverage! Radio, newspapers, posting, exploitation, parades, banquets. Promotion to beat the band—and to beat records. Watch!

Keep Selling Bonds!

U. S. Reports on Theatre Markets In Pacific, Asia

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—Exhibition conditions in 14 Asiatic and South Pacific areas, having 3,819 theatres with a seating capacity of 2,349,744, are analyzed in detail in a report released tonight by Nathan D. Golden, chief of the motion picture unit of the Department of Commerce.

Based on information secured through the consular service of the State Department, the report is a factual presentation intended to aid American producers and distributors in formulating their postwar plans by having available the latest securable data when the time comes for reentering these markets.

Information concerning local controls, censorship, number of theatres, attendance and frequency of attendance, films shown, audience preferences and other pertinent matters is given in the report for Australia, Ceylon, Free China, Fiji Islands, India, New Caledonia, New Zealand, the Society Islands, Afghanistan, Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon.

American Films Popular

Except for one or two areas under French control, American fims are the most popular, but comment throughout the report indicates that considerable can be done toward improving the effectiveness of American films. In many areas, it was shown, there is much complaint that films show undesirable sides of American life which, while automatically put in their proper perspective by American audiences, are not so readily assimilated by foreign audiences. It is also suggested in many areas, particularly where there are Arab or Indian audiences, it will be necessary to produce films in those languages if full advantage is to be secured from native audience possibilites.

Preference in Sophistication

Generally speaking, the report shows that while audiences have much the same preferences as those in this country and England, and in places where the audience is preponderantly white, as in Australia, city people like sophisticated comedy, musicals and good drama, while in the rural areas outdoor, Western and slapstick comedy is preferred. In other areas, where there are closely-knit British communities, as in Aden, the more conservative English films have strong appeal.

Throughout the whole area covered by the report, where there is large native attendance it was commented that the preference is for action, with a minimum of talking. The propaganda effect of United Nations films has, on the whole, been good, it was said. However, likes and dislikes vary widely from market to market; native audiences in Arabia are easily pleased; Arabians in Aden like violent physical combat, while Indian audiences like love triangles, and in French Oceania the people are likely to feel sorry if the villain is killed.

Wakoff Leaves Reade

Arthur Wakoff, for 10 years buyer and booker for the Walter Reade circuit in New Jersey, has resigned, effective Oct. 28.

Review

"None But the Lonely Heart"

(RKO-Radio)

Hollywood, Oct. 1

ALERT and intelligent audiences who find entertainment in sociology will be the audiences for which "None But the Lonely Heart" will carry appeal. Unless the attraction can muster enough of them, or draw upon attendance not commonly found in picture houses, the box-office water which this film version of the book by Richard Llewellyn will draw will be severely limited.

Of course, it stars Cary Grant in a part sharply different from "Arsenic and Old Lace." He is a product of London's East End slums in the period between the two World Wars. He is a Cockney proceeding under his own philosophical formula, vaguely and irresolutely reaching out for a finer world. The suggestion is that it will be found when the common man of good heart and stout courage combines with his brother to bring this about.

Yet how the economically frustrated may be expected to reach toward that better estate is as irresolute and as diffused as the central dramatic character. In point of conclusion, therefore, the picture is incomplete.

Grant rebels against his poverty. On several occasions, he declaims against it. Audiences whose attentions may be held will recognize the cry, but are apt to end up in welters of their own indecisions since the attraction resolves practically nothing. There are death and disappointments, and the final impression is that "None But the Lonely Heart" emerges as a victory in defeatism. Perhaps this was the intention. If true, then this enterprise must be set down as experimental and, consequently, dubious by any routine appraisal bearing on its commercial possibilities.

Moreover, Clifford Odets, playwright who wrote the screenplay and directed as his first such venture in Hollywood, actually has produced a stage play, not a motion picture. In essence, he has a one-set production—a street in a slum district with rooms and quarters branching off it. He has permitted a great deal of dialogue, almost nothing of movement unless it is a chase between two autos ending in a wreck, and virtually no fluidity. His characters converse unduly, consume too much footage; and, while performances range from excellent to good, it is the ear, far more than the eye, which is reached.

Briefly, the drama, with its veerings toward tragedy, tells of Grant, a wanderer who ogles a rosier future and does nothing to bring it closer. He determines to stand by his mother who is dying of cancer. His emotional life fluctuates between Jane Wyatt, musician, and June Duprez, amusement-hall cashier. From the former, he gets understanding; from the latter, love. As a quick road to comfort, he aligns himself with George Coulouris, petty gangster, and finally reaches the point where he wants to marry Miss Duprez despite Coulouris' warnings to 'lay off.' The girl, once married to the gangster, knows his ways and returns to him in order to protect Grant. Thus, Grant loses his love.

In order to best their poverty, Ethel Barrymore, who plays Grant's mother, turns 'fence.' The police raid, and remove her to the jail hospital where she dies, off-screen. Thus, whatever better influences she had aroused in her son are lost to him as well. It is on this note of despair and defeatism that the picture closes.

Of comedy relief, there is virtually nothing. The drama is unleavened. Its backgrounds are stark and sombre. Grant is as good as the fuzziness his screen character allows. Miss Barrymore, whose first picture this is since "Rasputin," of 1932, of course, is superb; anything less could hardly be brooked. Miss Duprez is a pleasant and a commendable surprise. Ada is not an easy part with its mixture of mental confusions and uncertainities, but she handles a difficult acting role with distinction. Barry Fitzgerald has little to do because of the limitations of his part. Others include Dan Duryea, Roman Bohnen, Konstantin Shayne and Joseph Vitale. David Hempstead produced.

Running time, 113 minutes. "A."* Release date not set, in RKO Radio's first 1944-45 block.

RED KANN

**"A" denotes adult classification.*

Lorentz Heads 20th Midwest District

CHICAGO, Oct. 1.—Jack Lorentz, who was recently transferred by 20th-Fox from Milwaukee to Boston as branch manager, has taken over the Midwest district manager's post here as of the week-end, succeeding Herman Beiersdorf, who was moved to Pittsburgh to become exchange manager, a post vacated by the resignation of C. V. Hake. Lorentz' last positon in Chicago, his home town, was in 1926 as salesman for Fox.

Longaker Leaves 20th

Marion Longaker, 20th Century-Fox publicity department's fashion and woman's page editor, has resigned to reenter the radio industry after an absence of four years. She joins NBC here today.

Newsreel Award Tonight

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—The annual 'Journalism Awards,' presented by the National Headliners Club for achievements in journalism, will be made tomorrow at a special luncheon for the National Headliners Club at the local Variety Club. The 1944 awards will honor men of the Armed Forces for achievements in newsreel, going to representatives of the Army Air Forces, Signal Corps, Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps.

Lawrence to M-G-M

Dee Lawrence, formerly with the Vanguard publicity department in Hollywood, will join the M-G-M home office publicity department today, to handle magazine and newspaper contacts on special assignments by Herbert Crooker, Eastern publicity manager.

Stock Trades Light; Walker, Johnston, And Carr in Deals

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 1.—Activities of film company officers and directors in the securities of their own corporations have been running exceptionally light, it was disclosed at the weekend in the monthly summary of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The largest transactions reported for August were the sale of 2,000 RKO Corp. warrants for common stock and 100 shares of common by J. Miller Walker, New York, director, representing his entire holdings in those classes.

Trem Carr a Seller

The only other four-figure transaction was the sale of 1,500 shares of Monogram Pictures common by Trem Carr, production head, leaving him with 5,167 shares. In the same company, W. Ray Johnston, president, reported the purchase of three shares of common and the sale of 500 shares, reducing his holdings to 18,690 shares held direct and 900 shares held through Monogram Pictures, Inc.

The only other deals reported were the purchase of 100 shares of General Precision Equipment capital stock by Walter E. Green, increasing his holdings to 220 shares, and the purchase of eight shares of Loew's Boston Theatres' common by Loew's, Inc., giving it a total of 121,221 shares.

In Columbia Broadcasting, Leon Levy, Philadelphia, disposed, by gift, of 46 shares of Class 'A' and 44 shares of 'B' common, leaving him with 14,200 shares of the former and 40,800 of the latter.

Reports on the holdings of persons becoming officers or directors of registered corporations showed that Joseph H. Moskowitz, New York, held 500 shares of 20th Century-Fox common and 500 shares of preferred when he became an officer in the company on Aug. 25.

Ginsberg, Holman End Studio Talks

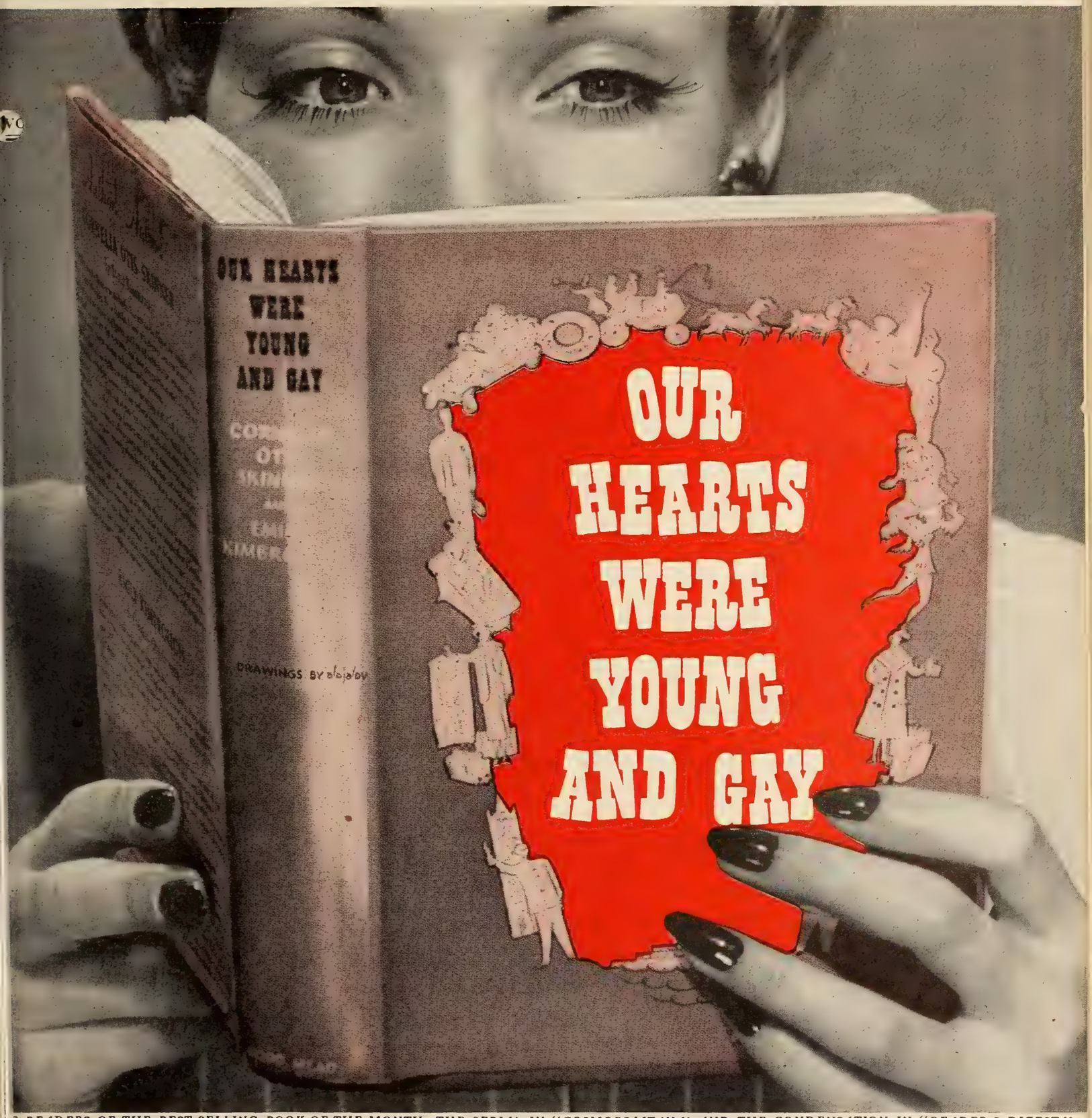
HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 1.—Russell Holman, Paramount Eastern production manager, is en route to New York after two weeks of conferences at the Paramount studio, during which Henry Ginsberg, vice-president and general manager in charge of production, and Holman set plans for carrying out a new policy of closer cooperation between the studio and the Eastern production office through frequent interchange of visits of executive personnel to Hollywood and New York. In line with this, Frank Butler and Joseph Sistrom will visit New York shortly, and Boris Kaplan, Eastern talent chief under Holman, will come to Hollywood.

Richard Mealand, newly-appointed studio story and writing head, is accompanying Holman to New York. Shortly after his return Holman will appoint a successor to Mealand as Eastern story editor.

Allied to Talk War

CHICAGO, Oct. 1.—Members of Allied of Illinois will attend a general business meeting and luncheon at the Blackstone Hotel here Thursday, to be presided over by President Jack Kirsch, president. A discussion on war emergencies will highlight the business session.

A picture of 20 Million People* in the past 2 years



* READERS OF THE BEST-SELLING BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH, THE SERIAL IN "COSMOPOLITAN," AND THE CONDENSATION IN "READER'S DIGEST."

And now the screen version's coming from PARAMOUNT

Upwards of Year To Make Structural Theatre Changes

(Continued from page 1)

proscenium wall should be allowed two years.

The committee went on record favoring a change in the state labor law to make the proposed state code applicable to all villages, towns and cities except New York. At present, 11 cities having local codes and building commissions are exempt. Enforcement, now scattered between 137 agencies, would be concentrated in the State Labor Department, according to to another recommendation, with the understanding that Edward Corsi, state industrial commissioner, might delegate some of it to the state police, which now conducts inspections in local areas.

Safety Yardstick Needed

The department's power, if the advisors' wishes are carried out, will be further expanded to permit setting up structural stability specifications instead of, as at present, merely passing on exits, fire escapes, etc. In this connection, William H. Roberts, chairman of the Board of Standards and Appeals, cited the example of a sagging beam holding up a balcony and said there is now no legally established yardstick for determining whether it is safe.

Chances of Amendment

Chances of an amended law's passing the legislature were enhanced, in the opinion of state officials present at Friday's meeting when the committee voted against changing the definition of places of public assembly to drop the minimum occupancy from 100 to 75 persons. A further vote, however, provided for bringing in all presently exempt structures except those supervised by the Commissioner of Education, and it was conceded that this change would run the bill into strong opposition.

Industry representatives present at Friday's meeting, in addition to Anderson, included Martin J. Tracey of Century Circuit; Theodore Junge, alternate for Harry Moskowitz of Loew's, and Glen H. Humphrey of projectionists' local No. 337, Utica. The committee will meet again Oct. 13.

Nazi Raids Smashed 30-45 GB Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

deteriorated due to restrictions on materials.

Kent, who was executive assistant to Skouras, will leave for London as soon as transportation priorities permit. He will stay abroad for a year before returning to the U. S. Upon his arrival in England, he will undertake a study of GB operations, he said.

Ostrer and Kent will report back to the GB board of directors on their postwar planning studies. J. Arthur Rank and 20th Century-Fox have equal interests in Metropolis and Bradford Trust, which in turn has controlling interest in GB.

Studios Drafting on Plans For Returning Workers

(Continued from page 1)

eliminate the possibility that men of peacetime classification whose return would relieve specific pressures, will be returning more quickly than others. However, the War Departments' plan presents producers with a new, although lesser, problem.

By and large, unofficially, it is Hollywood's intention to give every returning serviceman his old job, an equivalent or a better one. There has been tentative talk about working out and implementing an official, cross-studio policy on the matter, but this has not reached finalistic stage, and may not.

Factors in Studio Jobs

Many factors inherent in the nature of Hollywod studio employment complicate the business of implementing any broad pledge to give every man his job back. Some of the jobs, as in the case of companies which have ceased to exist, simply are not there. Additionally, jobs which the men left have been given to and are occupied by persons who have performed them well during the greatest production activity the studios ever experienced.

The problem posed by this state of affairs differs in various classifications. It is exemplified in extreme degree by the case of the actor, little known before, who has stepped into war-vacated prominence and become a valuable asset. Because it is hypothetically impossible to have too many popular actors, this case is not likely to create a dilemma. The parallel in some other lines of work may.

The problem, in large, breaks down into two main classifications: contract workers and non-contract employees.

The non-contract classification includes technicians, electricians, carpenters and several similar groups, most of whom are employed by studios irregularly, reporting for work at one studio or another, in response to calls placed with their respective unions, and leaving the studio when the work is completed. Unless production were to approach a standstill, comparatively little likelihood of difficulty in keeping this type of worker employed exists.

Contract employes, on the other hand, pose a problem which, many believe, will not be entirely clarified until a test case has been brought and tried in court to determine the legal status of contracts which went into what was called 'abeyance' when the contracted employes left for armed service.

It was the general understanding, shared by everyone, and apparently in full sincerity, that these contracts were "frozen" at the point of leave-taking, and would be resumed as of that point on the return of the contractee. It was not until the Olivia DeHavilland-Warner litigation arose that question as to the legal status of these contracts came to attention.

Specific Point in Doubt

The specific point in doubt is whether a contract for professional service is, or is not, breached by the stoppage of payment by the contractor to the contractee for any reason. With few exceptions, and in all cases by agreement, payment of studio salaries to men in service did cease during the period of absence on military duty. Pending decision on the point in doubt, there is the double question of whether an employee is obliged to return to his former employee, in case he should prefer to return to some other studio, and whether his former employer can compel him to do so. The intangibles in this problem color the whole problem of fitting demobilized professionals into the production picture.

RKO M'grs' Union Wins in SLRB Vote

(Continued from page 1)

an election on the petition of the managers and assistants was viewed as a significant move since RKO had contended that managers and assistants were executives and therefore not eligible for union membership. It had marked the first time that an organization of theatre managers had been recognized under the Wagner Labor Act and executives of numerous circuits here and elsewhere are understood to be interested in the issue.

Under SLRB procedure, the union will now be certified as the collective bargaining representative for the RKO managers and assistants and will attempt to negotiate a contract with the company. Should the company refuse to negotiate, the case will eventually go to court.

'Window' Screening Oct. 9

RKO-International's "The Woman in the Window," starring Edward G. Robinson and Joan Bennett, will be trade screened Oct. 9 in all exchange cities.

Mayer Made Griffis Aide in Red Cross

(Continued from page 1)

Stanton Griffis, commissioner for that area, and Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American Red Cross.

Mayer will work out of Hawaii, in association with Griffis, whose appointment was made recently. They expect to leave shortly for their headquarters.

The acceptance of the new post by Mayer is another in a series of war chores. With the inception of the WAC he volunteered his full-time services. At the WAC, he was named assistant coordinator, doubling as treasurer.

Following a request from Secretary of War Patterson, Mayer dropped his WAC efforts in part to head the motion picture branch of the Army's industrial services. This division shows films to war plant workers. Under Mayer's direction a field organization was set up which services films to an estimated 8,500,000 workers each month.

Contest to Spur Theatre Bond Job

(Continued from page 1)

rector for the drive, disclosed at the weekend.

The contest, organized to triple the interest of 16,000 exhibitors in their effort to go over the top in the Sixth War Loan Drive, will get underway as soon as final details are completed. Prizes will be awarded on the basis of ingenuity and effectiveness of the exhibitor's bond selling ideas and not on the basis of total sale or increase in sales over previous bond drives.

The magazines' organizing committee handling details of the contest consists of Stuart Little, chairman, *Screen Stars;* Ken Joy, *Modern Screen;* Richard Roffman, *Movieland,* and Al Stearn, Fawcett Publications.

They will appoint a committee this week to name the contest, select judges, set up rules, regulations and the type of awards to the winning exhibitors.

Other publications and their representatives present at the meeting at which the contest idea was conceived were: Dorothea Lee McEvoy, *Screen Guide;* Bessie Love, *Screen Stars;* Fred Sammis, *Photoplay;* San Nelson and Edward Lauer, Ideal Women's Group; Eliott Odell, Fawcett Screen Unit; Henry P. Malmgreen, *Modern Screen* and *Screen Romances;* Ray Pearce and John Dungan, *Screenland.* Also present were Hertz, Ernie Moeller and William Dasheff, assistant to Hertz.

Metzger, Bershon End Tour for 6th Drive

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 1.—Gus Metzger, Southern California exhibitor chairman for the Sixth War Loan Drive, accompanied by Dave Bershon, retiring chairman, have returned from a swing around their territory during which they held pre-campaign huddles with theatre and War Finance staff workers.

With the Sixth War Loan drive slated to start on Nov. 20 and run through until Dec. 16, Metzger highlighted each meeting with plans which will shortly be placed in motion to help top the $14,000,000,000 national goal.

Clark Named WB Canadian Head

(Continued from page 1)

for Australia and New Zealand shortly after the merger of First National with Warners, and remained in that post until the outbreak of World War II, when he returned to New York to join the home office sales department.

Clark will leave for Toronto this week to take up his new post.

His son, Ralph Clark, Jr., who was Sydney branch manager for Warners before the war, is now a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, stationed in the Australian zone.

'Climax' Premiere Oct. 11

World premiere of Universal's "The Climax" will be held Oct. 11, with simultaneous openings at the RKO Keith Memorial Theatre, Boston, and the Orpheum, San Francisco. A special exploitation crew has been sent to Boston to handle the opening there while San Francisco job will be handled by a studio staff.

'SYWA' Raises Gross $7,000 in Boston

BOSTON, Oct. 1.—"Since You Went Away," at the State and Orpheum theatres, is drawing heavy crowds and $32,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 29:

"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
BOSTON—(3,200) (50c-$1.10) On stage: Ina Horn. Gross: $36,000. (Average: $30,000).
"Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine" (Mono.)
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-74c) Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(1,500) ($1.10) Gross: $6,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"Mlle. Fifi" (RKO)
MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-75c) Gross: $26,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Janie" (WB)
"Last Ride" (WB)
METROPOLITAN — (4,367) (40c - 74c) Gross: $28,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA-Selznick)
ORPHEUM—(2,900) (35c-75c) Gross: $32,000. (Average: $26,000).
"Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT—(1,700) (40c-74c). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $12,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA-Selznick)
STATE—(3,200) (35c-74c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Soul of the Monster" (Col.)
"Werewolf" (Col.)
TRANSLUX—(900) (30c-74c) Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000).

Minneapolis Is Off, But 'Brown' Is Not

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 1.—Leader in an off-week here was "Casanova Brown" at the State Theatre, grossing $12,500. "Seventh Cross" at the Lyric, in its second week downtown, also drew well.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 28:

"Summer Storm" (UA)
WORLD — (350) (44c-60c-70c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $2,300).
"Bride By Mistake" (RKO)
ORPHEUM — (2,800) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $12,800).
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
GOPHER — (998) (40c) 6 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $4,000).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
LYRIC — (1,250) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500).
"Janie" (WB)
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,500).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
STATE—(2,300) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,000).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Gamblers' Choice" (Para.)
"Riders of the Deadline" (UA)
ASTER—(900) (25c-35c) 7 days. Gross: $2,200. (Average: $2,500).

Markey to Act for Forrestal on Films

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—An Office of Motion Pictures in the Navy has been established with Capt. Gene Markey, former Hollywood writer-producer, in charge as special assistant to Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal. Capt. Markey will represent the Secretary of the Navy in all motion picture activities of the Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps, and will act as liaison with government and private agencies, including the film industry.

Capt. Markey returned to Washington after three years of active duty in the Pacific, Middle East and Far East.

Jurisdictional Fight Is Pending for 'Collarites'

(Continued from page 1)

locals of their office workers, from jurisdiction of the new international, the IATSE did not seek exemption of 3,000 film exchange office workers; also not exempt are 3,500 workers in Hollywood studios. The latter group, in Screen Office Employes Guild, Local 1391, is affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers.

Both SOEG and the Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, New York, which has 800 members in the Warner and Universal home offices, have been considering the possibility of seeking a charter from the new international union of office workers, but the questions of autonomy, jurisdiction, constitutions and dues loom importantly in their considerations. MPOE is a Federal office workers' local having a charter directly from the AFL executive council.

Several newly organized locals of film salesmen and theatre managers' unions applied for charters from the IATSE at the latter's convention in St. Louis last May. The applications were referred to the "IA" executive board and it is unlikely that any action will be taken until the Winter meeting of the board in December.

Should the new international claim jurisdiction over film salesmen through the AFL executive council, the IATSE might be prevented from granting charters to them and might be faced by a further demand from the AFL executive board that it surrender jurisdiction over film exchange "white collar" workers, according to union spokesmen here.

The possibilty of all office workers organized by the AFL in the film industry coming under the jurisdiction of the IATSE is seen as remote since the SOEG is understood to be reluctant to affiliate itself with the "IA" craft groups, preferring to retain the autonomy of its present affiliation.

The CIO has organized some 3,000 office workers in the home offices of Paramount, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, RKO, Columbia and United Artists, and other companies and in the New York exchanges of several, under the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109.

Theatre to Show War Art for U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

ments. In addition to serving as a stimulus to the sale of war bonds, the exhibition, according to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, "should inspire a proud determination in all Americans to become an active part of this war in every possible way."

The Roxy exhibition will be followed by two weeks each in Detroit, Chicago and Los Angeles and one week in each of the other cities.

Frank H. Rickertson, Jr., is named vice-chairman of the executive committee, which also includes: B. V. Sturdivant, director, and Barney Balaban, Nate J. Blumberg, Jack Cohn, Ned E. Depinet, Walt Disney, Edward C. Raftery, N. Peter Rathvon, Nicholas M. Schenck, Spyros P. Skouras, Harry M. Warner and others prominent in entertainment, military and art fields.

The exhibition includes paintings by servicemen assigned by the War Department to depict American Army life throughout the world. None of the paintings will be sold or auctioned.

A preview of the show, attended by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and the Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Henry Morgenthau, Jr., was held Friday at the Jules Laurents Studios here, followed by a reception at the Sherry-Netherland Hotel.

Delay Col. Appointment

A. Montague, Columbia general sales manager, left for the Coast at the weekend and has deferred until his return the decision on a successor to Irving Wormser, who resigned last week as assistant to Nat Cohn, district manager at the New York exchange. Wormser will become Eastern sales manager of Film Classics.

Services for Cobb

PADUCAH, KY., Oct. 1.—Memorial service will be held here Oct. 7 for Irvin S. Cobb. The service will include a tree-planting ceremony at the graveside in Oak Grove cemetery.

Hollywood

Hollywood, Oct. 1

ANDREW STONE expects to start production about Nov. 1 on "Bedside Manner," from the Robert Carson *Saturday Evening Post* story, to be released by United Artists in place of Stone's previously contemplated production based on the Atlantic City beauty contests. . . . Universal will make "The Daltons Ride Again" as a sequel to "When the Daltons Rode; it's to be a 'super-Western', with Ford Beebe producing and directing. . . . George Blake, New York producer of commercial films, has joined Universal as an associate producer. . . .

•

John Larkin, 20th Century-Fox writer, has been made a director to handle "Circumstantial Evidence," a film from the Bryan Foy wing of the studio. . . . Arthur Dreifuss, who directed "Ever Since Venus" as his first for Columbia, and is working now on "Eadie Was a Lady," has been given a long-term contract by the studio. . . . Alfred Zeisler, former UFA executive in Germany, who left there after Hitler took the place over, and who directed "Enemy of Women" for W. R. Frank, exhibitor-producer, has been engaged by Monogram to direct "Divorce," starring Kay Francis, the star's first undertaking as co-producer in association with Jeffrey Bernerd.

Because of the great number of requests for seats and the limited capacity of the RKO Projection Room in New York (originally announced place of showing)

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The Great MIKE
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WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN

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BLUEBEARD
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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 65 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Drive Leaders Set Up 21 Field Meetings

Sessions Start Oct. 20, Wind Up Here Nov. 15

The industry's Sixth War Loan Drive committee leaders, led by Harry Brandt, national chairman for the industry's participation in this $14,000,000,000 drive, starting Nov. 20, has set a campaign schedule for the committee meetings in 21 key cities.

The first in this series will get under way in Oklahoma City on Oct. 20 and the last will be held in New York Nov. 15.

Among the executives scheduled to attend, in addition to Brandt, are:

(*Continued on page 7*)

Cobian Will Build In South America

Rafael Ramos Cobian, president of Cobian Theatres, Inc., which operates 22 theatres and is the largest circuit in Puerto Rico, is here conferring with distributors to line up product for a projected theatre expansion in Latin-America. Cobian plans to construct theatres in those countries where it is permissible to do so at present. He said that he has sufficient resources to take care of "the immediate needs" of his building program, but, as it expands, he may call upon outside capital.

Although recently there has been a slight recession in theatre business

(*Continued on page 6*)

Committee of 62 Plan For 'Night of Stars'

Plans for the 11th annual "Night of Stars" have been formulated by a producing committee of 62 leaders of the amusement industry under the chairmanship of Robert M. Weitman. The benefit will be held at Madison Square Garden, Tuesday evening, Nov. 14, to raise $100,000 for the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine.

Honorary chairmen of the producing committee for this year's "Night of Stars" are: Barney Balaban, David Bernstein, Nate J. Blumberg, Jack Cohn, N. Peter Rathvon, Marvin Schenck and Albert Warner. Co-chairmen include Louis K. Sidney and Ed Sullivan.

Good Grosses at New York Houses; 'Cross' Opens Big

Good weekend business is helping downtown New York first runs to better-than-average grosses this week. Of the new arrivals, "The Seventh Cross," combined with a stage bill featuring Horace Heidt and his musical aggregation at the Capitol, is doing outstanding business with $80,000 expected on the basis of $50,000 taken in on the first four days, ending Sunday night.

"Greenwich Village," a new arrival at the Roxy, combined with a show featuring Veloz and Yolanda and Senor Wences, is headed for $83,000, on the basis of $66,000 for the first five days. The run is limited to two weeks in view of previous commitments; 20th Century-Fox's "Laura" will open Oct. 11.

"Arsenic and Old Lace," at the Strand, and "Frenchman's Creek," at

(*Continued on page 7*)

90% of Loew Pension Applications Are In

More than 90 per cent of the applications for individuals participating in Loew's, Inc., employee retirement plan in the home office exchanges and theatres have been returned and are being processed. Studio applications are being handled separately. Some 4,000 employes are expected to be covered by the plan.

As reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Sept. 7, an initial payment to the trustees of the pension plan of $3,000,000 has been made. When all applications have been turned in and approved by the retirement plan com-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Backlog Holds Up 'Wilson', 'SYWA'

Chicago, Oct. 2.—Shortage of first-run houses in the Loop is holding back important product, already nationally exploited and on view in most key cities. As a result, such films as "Since You Went Away" and "Wilson" are being held up indefinitely. The condition will continue to be true of any raised admission picture booked in through special deals.

Balaban and Katz will play both "Away" and "Wilson" but only until after its backlog of earlier pictures is used up.

Mooney Says Schine Forced Him Out

BUFFALO, Oct. 2.—Milton A. Mooney, president and general manager of Cooperative Theatres of Ohio and former branch manager for Vitagraph in Cleveland, testifying here today as a Government witness in the anti-trust case against Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., charged that cut-rate competition from Schine and failure to obtain product forced him to lease to the circuit three houses he operated in Bellfontaine, Ohio, from 1924 to 1931.

According to Mooney, Schine opened the New Holland in February, 1931, with a 15-25-cent scale, compared with his 35-cent top at the Strand, Opera House and Majestic. Leases on these theatres were finally

(*Continued on page 7*)

U. S. Postwar Aim: No Distribution Curbs on United Nations' Films

Washington, Oct. 2.—With the end of hostilities in Europe, the United Nations will face problems in the reconversion of industry and the revival of international trade which will try the strength of the agreements reached by the allied governments on international economic, financial and industrial matters—including those offered by motion pictures.

The United States is committed to a policy of unhampered distribution throughout the world of the pictures of all nations, with no censorship on imported films other than that maintaining moral standards; with earnings from films going to whom they are due; with no tariffs imposed with a view to keeping foreign films out, and applied equitably to films from all countries, and with internal taxes on pictures applied alike to domestic and foreign films, without discrimination.

Agreement to these principles is being pressed upon all nations. Without such an agreement, American pictures may again become 'the whipping boy' of nationalistic governments, subjected to quotas, discriminatory tariffs and taxes, blocked exchange and other arbitrary arrangements designed to keep them out.

Lift Booth Accessory Restrictions

WPB Also Expands List Of Permissible Items

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—All restrictions on the manufacture and distribution of booth accessories have been removed by the War Production Board in an amendment of photographic order No. L-325, it was announced here today by Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section.

At the same time, additional items have been added to the list of permissible accessories, including automatic safety devices on projectors required by the state laws of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, and carbon savers and reel-end alarms.

Smith explained that he has been working for some time to have the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Meet Tomorrow on Canada Conciliation

TORONTO, Oct. 2.—General managers of the major Canadian exchanges have accepted an invitation to attend on Wednesday here a conference called by the National Council of Independent Exhibitors to deal with acceptance of the proposal for establishment of regional conciliation boards for the Canadian film business, E. H. Wells, secretary of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, stated following a general meeting of that group here today. The proposed set-up includes an appeal board in Toronto.

It is understood that the conference will also decide upon a definition of "independent exhibitor" and the proportion of representation to be held on the various boards by distributors, circuits and independents.

Southern Owners To Act on Decree

THOMASVILLE, Ga., Oct. 2.—Nat Williams, president of the Southeastern Theatre Owners Association, with headquarters here, discloses here that he will call a meeting of the members of that organization in the near future to discuss and possibly take action upon the Government's proposals for amendments to the consent decree.

Personal Mention

CHARLES EINFELD, Warner vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, is due in New York from Hollywood, Octo. 9.

•

JAMES E. COSTON and NAT WOLF, Chicago and Cleveland theatre zone managers, respectively, for Warners, and ALEX HALPERIN and TONY STERN, film buyers and bookers for the same respective territories, are here for home office conferences. L. S. GRAN, of the Milwaukee zone also has arrived in New York.

•

HARVEY DAY, sales manager of Terrytoons, with headquarters at the 20th Century-Fox home office, left yesterday on a two-weeks' sales trip through the Midwest.

•

PVT. MICKEY ROONEY, with the Army in Alabama, was married Saturday at Birmingham, to BETTY JANE RASE.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, Warners' assistant general sales manager, will arrive today in Charlotte from the home office.

•

CLIFF WORK, vice president and general manager of Universal, arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

•

ARTHUR SCHWARTZ, Warner director, will leave New York for Hollywood today.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram sales manager, has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

•

BOB HICKEY, RKO Midwest publicity head, has left Chicago on a business trip to Texas.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, president of Republic, will leave for Toronto today on a three-day business trip.

•

MITCHELL RAWSON of the M-G-M publicity department left yesterday for Hollywood.

•

DARRYL ZANUCK will be given an honorary degree this week by the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

McElwaine Leaving MGM, Coming East

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—Don McElwaine, for the past 13 years with M-G-M, resigned today as assistant publicity director at the studio. McElwaine plans to go to New York before revealing his new affiliation.

McElwaine started as copy boy on the *Indiana Daily Times*. His first film work was as assistant editor of the Mutual Film's "The Screen Telegram" in Chicago. Subsequently he was exploiteer with First National, advertising manager of Fox Film, a producer with Buck Jones Corp., and publicity director of Pathe Studios.

To Set Up Academy For Radio Awards

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—A radio organization similar to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, is expected to materialize in the near future, taking a pattern from responses to questionnaires being mailed tomorrow to all radio and television stations, their staffs, and all talent and technical groups, by Lee and Losh, Hollywood public relations counselors, retained by NBC, CBS and the Blue.

A spokesman for Lee and Loch said the plan envisions a nation-wide membership including all chains and independents, with its province limited to matters of common interest, and presenting inclusive annual awards for outstanding air achievements.

Mutual is not yet participating in the preliminary survey but is expected to join. A decision on the name of the organization, location, headquarters and other fundamentals, is to follow a study of the returned questionnaires, probably in two or three months.

Awards Nov. 5 for Western Features

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—Awards for pre-eminence in the field of Western pictures will be made by the Western Motion Picture Awards Association Nov. 5 in the Hollywood Bowl, according to Bernie Williams, WMPAA president, who told MOTION PICTURE DAILY 367 newspapers will publish ballot-forms on which readers will register preferences for recipients of awards. Williams said Rudy Vallee will be master of ceremonies.

The event will be open to the public at $1 to $4 a ticket. He said 10 per cent of the gate will go to the Motion Picture Relief Fund.

Appoint Hoffay Head Of Film Committee

Michael Hoffay, head of RKO Radio's foreign press relations department, was appointed rotating chairman of the International Film Relations Committee, succeeding Albert Deane of Paramount, at a meeting here yesterday.

Present a the meeting were David Blum, Loew's; Leslie F. Whalen, 20th Fox; Gerald Keyser, Warners; Sam Cohen and Leonard Daly, United Artists; Fortunat Baronat and Julian Benedict, Universal; David O'Malley and C. J. Schneider, Columbia; Harold C. Smith, MPPDA, and Hoffay and Deane.

Goldhammer Meets Franchise Holders

CHICAGO, Oct. 2.—L. E. Goldhammer, general sales manager of Film Classics, met with the company's Chicago and Milwaukee franchise holders here today to discuss general sales policies.

Goldhammer left New York Friday and visited the Film Classics' St. Louis and Des Moines branches over the weekend.

Union Court Fight Enters 2nd Week

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 2.—The hearing on the contractual dispute between 16 St. Louis theatres and IATSE Local No. 6, will go into its second week before Jules E. Kohn, Regional War Labor Board arbitrator, here tomorrow. The hearing is expected to be concluded this week, but a decision in the case will probably not be handed down for several weeks.

Leroy Upton, president of the Local, has testified that the work of the stagehands has increased because of the amount of vandalism in theatres. He declared that every one of the 41 theatres now employing stagehands need their services and charged that theatre managers are seeking to destroy the union. Theatre managers had testified earlier that an unjustifiable number of stagehands are now employed. The theatres are seeking to reduce the number of men employed and to require the stagehands to work during hours the theatres are closed to do stage maintenance work. In addition to the usual duties, the stagehands, he said, serve in handling crowds during fires and other emergencies, are used in fire fighting and perform many other services. Photographs depicting stagehands performing varied maintenance assignments were introduced by the union.

WAC Shorts Stress War in Pacific

Two of three War Activities Committee releases for October will focus attention of the public on the war in the Pacific. The three, all shorts, will be distributed by the WAC in cooperation with the Office of War Information.

"It's Murder," produced by Columbia, scheduled for Oct. 12, is a "don't talk" subject; "Target—Japan," for Oct. 26, "stars" Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal and Admiral Ernest J. King; a "film bulletin" casts members of the Marine Corps, explaining how Sixth War Loan bond purchases will aid in hastening the end of the war.

LeRoy Will Make One Or Two Films a Year

Mervyn LeRoy will produce only one or two top-budget films annually under the Arrowhead Productions banner, producing at the Warner studios on the Coast, he said here yesterday.

LeRoy is here from California to seek talent for Frank Ross' production, "The Robe," which he is directing. He will be here for several weeks and does not expect to start production on his first Arrowhead film for several months. He has not lined up a story yet, he said.

Wolff Delays Return

Robert S. Wolff, RKO Radio managing director in Great Britain, who arrived from California yesterday, will spend several weeks at the home office before returning to London.

UA Accessories in Charlotte to NSS

Harry D. Buckley, United Artists vice-president, yesterday disclosed that National Screen Service will handle accessories for UA in the Charlotte exchange. National has been handling the Dallas accessory distribution for UA for several months. Other than these two exchanges UA will continue to handle its own accessory business, Buckley stated.

National Screen is presently taking care of the accessory business of Paramount, RKO, M-G-M and Universal.

NEW YORK THEATRES

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A Republic Picture
starring
VERA HRUBA RALSTON
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"ROCKEFELLER CENTER"
("THIS IS AMERICA" SERIES)
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

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Alan Marshal • Laraine Day
'BRIDE BY MISTAKE'
Marsha Hunt • Allyn Joslyn
EXTRA—Brazil Today!

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's New Musical
'MAISIE GOES TO RENO'
ANN SOTHERN
JOHN HODIAK
TOM DRAKE
IN PERSON
JIMMIE LUNCEFORD & ORCHESTRA
JOYNER & FOSTER

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
Fred Mac Murray Barbara Stanwyck
Edward G. Robinson
"DOUBLE INDEMNITY"
IN PERSON
THE ANDREWS SISTERS
MITCHELL AYRES AND HIS BAND.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

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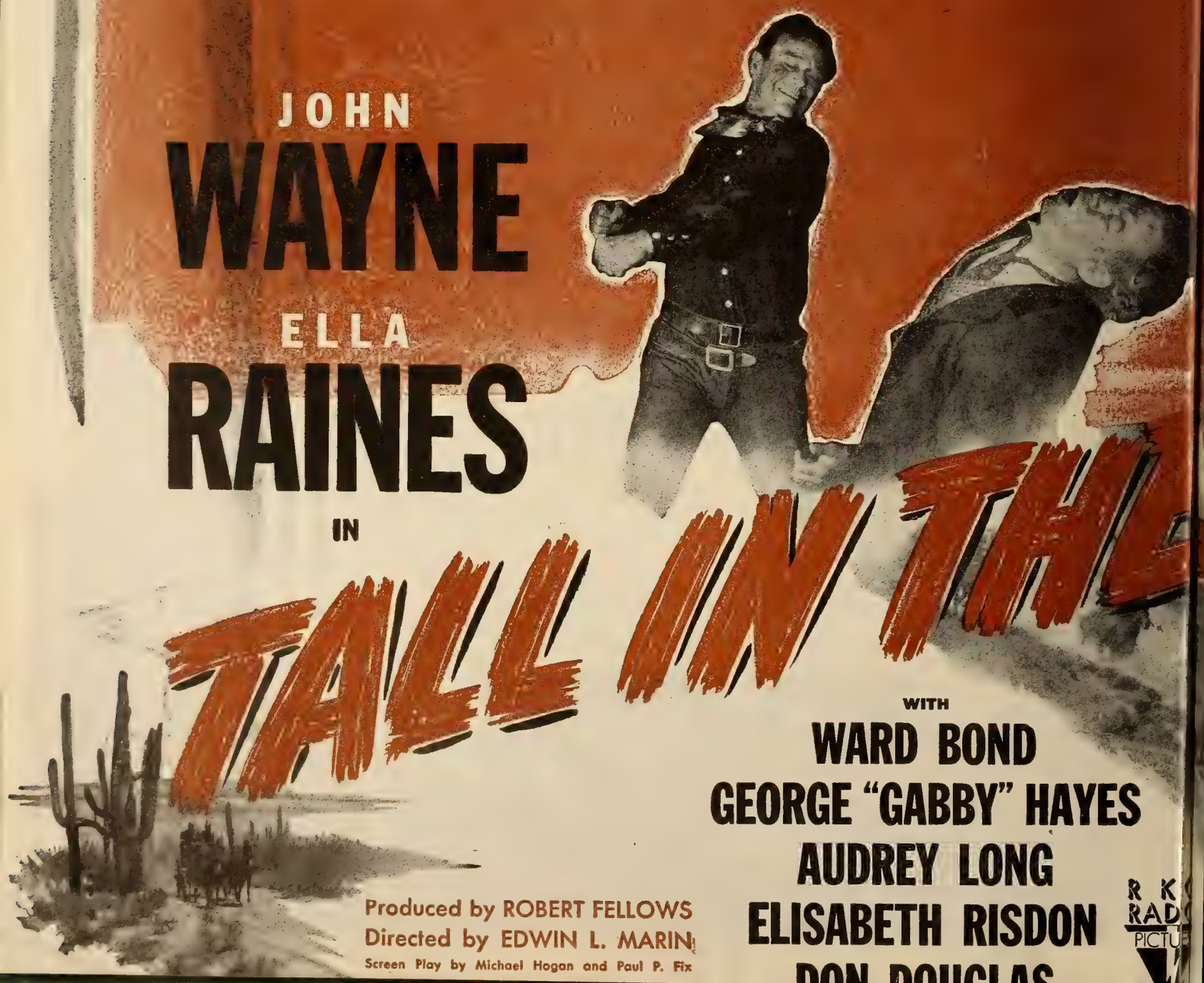
RAINES
IN



WITH

WARD BOND
GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES
AUDREY LONG
ELISABETH RISDON
DON DOUGLAS

Produced by ROBERT FELLOWS
Directed by EDWIN L. MARIN
Screen Play by Michael Hogan and Paul P. Fix

RKO RADIO PICTURES

A good outdoor feature is everybody's meat; a GREAT Epic of the West is food for the Box-Office Gods! . . . And here is one of the all-time best! . . . Grand romance combined with heroic drama, terrific thrills, action and suspense . . . all bulwarked by powerful names and production values on a par with the biggest...A show with limitless possibilities for ANY theatre—anywhere!

19 Named to Aid B'nai B'rith Here

David Weinstock, president of Raybond Theatres, who is chairman of the 1944-45 drive of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith to double its membership, has selected a committee which includes representatives from the film companies, local circuits, affiliated amusement industries and theatre service and supply companies.

Spearheading Cinema's membership drive in the various units will be the following: Irving H. Greenfield, Loew's; Miles H. Alben, Warner Bros.; Edward M. Schnitzer, United Artists; Leo Jaffe, Columbia; Harold L. Danson, Paramount; Adolph Schimel, Universal; Norman B. Steinberg, 20th Century-Fox; Harry H. Thomas, Republic, Monogram and PRC; Leo Abrams, National Screen; Joseph Hornstein, theatre accessories and supplies; Harold Rodner, concessionaires; Martin Levine, Joseph Ingber and J. J. Goldberg, independent theatres; Henry Randal, film exchanges; Julius M. Collins, music publishers; Nat Lefkowitz, artists' agents; Albert A. Senft, advertising display companies; Milton Livingston, trade press.

Representatives of the Motion Picture Bookers' Club, including Larry Morris, B. S. Moss; George Trilling, Fabian; Irving Ludwig, Rugoff and Becker; Harold Klein, Julius Joelson; Jack Perley, Paramount; Alex Arnswalder, Loew's; Jack Meltzer, Associated Theatres of New Jersey; Oscar Lager, Charles Moses circuit and Max Fried, have pledged support.

N. J. Allied Installation

CAMDEN, N. J., Oct. 2.—Mrs. Helen Hildinger and Si Myers were installed as co-chairmen of Allied Theatres of New Jersey at a luncheon in the Walt Whitman Hotel here today. Harry H. Lowenstein, N. J. Allied president, was installing officer.

WPB Lifts Restrictions On Booth Accessories

(*Continued from page* 1)

restrictions removed. The change will have no effect on exhibitors, who have at no time been subject to any restrictions on the acquisition of needed equipment, when available.

(On Aug. 15, restrictions were removed on the manufacture of projectors. The actions subsequently proved to be of but slight significance due to difficulties, which manufacturers experienced in obtaining parts and materials.)

Provision is also made for quick expansion of manufacture under the "spot authorization" order, which will go into effect as supply conditions improve. All operations under the amended order will be covered by WPB form 1319, instead of the two forms heretofore used. This is the form which is to be used by all industries, but equipment dealers will be required to fill out the form only to such an extent as is necessary to cover their particular operations.

Smith reported that deliveries of automatic enclosed rewinders are running about two months behind because of the difficulty of securing motors, but that supplies of all other accessories are moving on reasonably fast and satisfactory schedules.

OPA Will Classify Individual Dealers

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Proposals that the Office of Price Administration classify dealers in used booth equipment as under the ceiling prices of either the used photographic materials order or the used-machinery order have been dropped because of the difficulty of covering the whole industry with one flat interpretation.

Instead, it is understood, the OPA will issue individual interpretations on the request of dealers submitting full information regarding the scope of their trade.

In general, it is believed, 35-mm equipment will be considered as under the used-machinery order, which is said to carry ceilings more satisfactory to the dealers, and 16-mm material will be under the used-photographic order, on the ground that the 35-mm apparatus comes under the head of industrial machinery.

Ackerman to Head Foreign Promotion

Preparing for overseas post-war film advertising, exploitation and publicity activities, John W. Hicks, Jr., president of Paramount International Films, reports the appointment of Paul E. Ackerman as director of advertising-publicity for the company's foreign distribution subsidiary.

Ackerman has been Paramount foreign publicity chief here for the past four years, and has been a member of the company's overseas advertising-publicity department for 10 years.

Roosevelt Unit Is Formed on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—Democratic adherents in Hollywood, in answer to the "Hollywood-for-Dewey" organization formed recently, have banded together to work for the reelection of President Roosevelt. Jack Warner, Katharine Hepburn and Samuel Goldwyn are chairmen of the Roosevelt committee. Members and those invited to join will hear Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes at a dinner in the Ambassador Hotel on Oct. 8 and Senator Harry S. Truman, Democratic Vice-Presidential candidate, in an address at the Shrine Auditorium here on Oct. 16.

Among the scores of members of the committee are: Harry M. Warner, Joseph M. Schenck, Leo Spitz, Kenneth Thomson, James Cagney, Charles Einfeld, George Cukor, Bryan Foy, Harry Brand, Howard Benedict, Sidney Buchman, George Cukor, Henry Hathaway, Jesse L. Lasky, Abe Lastfogel, Mervyn Le Roy, Sol Lesser, Douglas Shearer, William Wilder, Albert Lewin and William Perlberg.

90% of Loew Pension Applications Are In

(*Continued from page* 1)

mittee, final costs of the plan will then be ascertainable. Tentative cost for the first year's operation is about $3,500,000.

The retirement plan committee consists of Eugene W. Leake, chairman; John T. Madden, Jesse T. Mills, Willard K. Craig, William R. Walsh and Jay M. Eisenberg and Byron J. Ellerbrock, secretaries. Plan trustees are: Leake, William A. Parker and Henry Rogers Winthrop.

Walbrook Drops Case

Walbrook Amusement Co., operator of the Walbrook Theatre, Baltimore, Md., has withdrawn its clearance complaint against Warners in the Washington arbitration tribunal.

Cobian Will Build In South America

(*Continued from page* 1)

in Puerto Rico, due to some U. S. troops and civilian laborers leaving the island, business still is generally 100 per cent better than in 1939, with a rise of 300 per cent registered in some situations, Cobian said. Mexican product, however, is being accorded an increasingly favorable reception. Mexican playing time has increased to 40 per cent of the total, Cobian stated, rising from a former level of 10 per cent.

Cobian said that Spanish dubbing will not go in Puerto Rico because many people speak both English and Spanish. Only films with Spanish superimposed titles are being shown there at present, he said. M-G-M is the only American major distributor that is in exhibition in San Juan, he said.

Henry MacRae Dies; Universal Producer

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—Henry MacRae, 68, Universal producer, died of a heart attack at his home in Beverly Hills today. His wife, Mrs. Margaret MacRae, survives.

The deceased, who joined the company in 1911, was general studio manager from 1912 to 1915 and at other times for briefer periods. After World War I, he was appointed Universal director-general and later named head of the serial department. He recently finished "The Mystery of the River Boat," a serial.

Robert Harrington Dies

Robert E. Harrington, 54, former actor and theatre manager for B. F. Keith, died at his home in Bayside, Queens, at the weekend. He joined Keith in 1920 and managed houses in Asbury Park and New Brunswick, N. J., and the Regent, Jefferson, Franklin and Broadway theatres in New York. At the time of his passing he was legislative secretary of the local West Side Commerce Association.

Bloom Champion Golfer

TORONTO, Oct. 2.—Martin Bloom, with 92, won the Famous Players-Canadian trophy for low gross at the first annual Canadian film championship golf tournament here today and also figured in a foursome of Columbia employes which won the N. L. Nathanson team championship trophy. Other members were Herb and Raymond Allen and Harvey Harnick. The trophy for low net was captured by Ed Smith of Oscar Hanson Enterprises.

WARNER BROS.
TRADE SHOW
NEW YORK — NEW JERSEY
TERRITORIES ONLY
"The DOUGHGIRLS"
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9th
2:30 P. M.
HOME OFFICE SCREENING ROOM
321 WEST 44th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

MITCHELL MAY, Jr.
CO., INC.
INSURANCE
•
Specializing
in requirements of the
Motion Picture Industry
75 Maiden Lane, New York
510 W. 6th St., Los Angeles

Good Grosses at New York Houses; 'Cross' Opens Big

(*Continued from page* 1)

the Rivoli, continue outstanding. Combined with a stage show featuring Charlie Barnet and band, "Arsenic" is headed for a record-breaking fifth week of $55,000, only a little less than the fourth week's gross. An excellent $62,000 is expected for the second week of "Creek" at the Rivoli after an initial week's gross that broke all existing records at the house.

"Casanova Brown" is holding up well at Radio City Music Hall, with $102,000 expected for the third week on the basis of $66,000 taken in on the first four days. The film will start a fourth week Thursday and will be followed by M-G-M's "Mrs. Parkington." "Double Indemnity" is expected to bring a profitable $60,000 for its fourth week at the Paramount; it will have a fifth and final week, with "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" following.

"Kismet" is holding up well at the Astor, with $30,000 expected for the sixth week; it will continue. "The Impatient Years" is expected to gross $27,500 in the second week at the Criterion, which is moderate. Universal's "Gypsy Wildcat" will open there tomorrow.

$18,500 for 'Wilson'

"Wilson" is expected to give the Victoria an excellent $18,500 for its first week on a moveover from the Roxy and will continue. A modest $18,000 is expected on the third and final week of "Bride by Mistake" at the Palace, and RKO Radio's "Music in Manhattan" will open there Friday.

"Barbary Coast Gent" is doing well at the Globe, with $23,000 expected for the first week; it will continue, with 20th Century-Fox's "Sweet and Lowdown" following. "Dangerous Journey" is headed for a moderate $12,000 at the Gotham and it will continue; United Artists' "Summer Storm" will follow.

"Doughgirls" is headed for a quiet $15,000 for a fifth week at the Hollywood and it will continue. "Storm Over Lisbon" will gross $6,000 in its fourth and final week at the Republic and RKO Radio's "My Pal, Wolf," will open Saturday. "The Big Noise" is expected to bring the Rialto about $6,000 on a second and final week; Universal's "Dead Man's Eyes" will open Friday.

Reagan Sets Next Paramount Block

Paramount's second block of five for 1944-45 was announced here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution.

The block includes: "Frenchman's Creek," in color, starring Joan Fontaine and Arturo de Cordova; "And Now Tomorrow," co-starring Alan Ladd and Loretta Young; "Ministry of Fear," starring Ray Milland and Marjorie Reynolds; "The Man in Half Moon Street," with Nils Asther and Helen Walker; "One Body Too Many," a Pine-Thomas production featuring Jack Haley, Jean Parker and Bela Lugosi.

"The Sign of the Cross" will be released simultaneously with the second block.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS

THEY'RE HITTING A NEW MARK!

NATIONWIDE SURVEY JUST ANNOUNCED PROVES "STORY OF DR. WASSELL" IS GREATEST DE MILLE GROSSER OF ALL TIME! GARY COOPER TECHNICOLOR HIT IS TOPPING PREVIOUS DE MILLE RECORD HOLDER, "REAP THE WILD WIND" ..AND BEATING EVEN "GOING MY WAY" IN NUMEROUS INSTANCES. SURVEY CITES SUCH AMAZING PERFORMANCES AS SECOND WEEK AT NEWARK PARAMOUNT BEATING FIRST WEEK, AND FIRST DAY OF SECOND WEEK AT B'KLYN PARAMOUNT TOPPING OPENING DAY BY 39%.

Drive Leaders Set Up 21 Field Meetings

(*Continued from page* 1)

Francis S. Harmon, WAC co-ordinator; S. H. Fabian, chairman of the theatres' division; Ned E. Depinet, head of the distributors' division; John Hertz, Jr., publicity director, and the following nine co-chairmen: William F. Crockett, Hugh W. Bruen, Jack Kirsch, John Rugar, Henry Reeve, Al Steffes, Leo Wolcott, Fred Wehrenberg and Nathan Yamins.

The national committee at each session will outline an over-all program and discuss plans to set in motion the machinery necessary in each locality for the industry's efforts in the drive.

The Oklahoma City meeting on Oct. 20 will be followed by meetings in Los Angeles, Oct. 23, and San Francisco on Oct. 24. The committee will then divide into two groups with each heading for other key cities, as follows: Portland, Ore., and Salt Lake City, Oct. 25; Seattle and Omaha, Oct. 26; Kansas City and Des Moines, Oct. 28; Chicago, Oct. 30; Cleveland, Oct. 31; Detroit, Nov. 1; Buffalo and Louisville, Nov. 2; Pittsburgh, Nov. 3; Hartford, Nov. 9; Philadelphia, Nov. 13; Baltimore, Nov. 14; New York City, Nov. 15.

In addition to the national committee, this group of nine co-chairmen, and representatives from the theatres' and distributors' WAC divisions, and the Treasury Department, each meeting will be attended by local regional directors appointed by co-chairmen.

Mooney Says Schine Forced Him Out

(*Continued from page* 1)

turned over to the circuit for $2,500 after an earlier $5,000 offer had been refused, he added. The properties, originally obtained from Daniel Gutilla, had cost Mooney $15,000, he said.

While the witness, under direct examination from Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice, was telling of discussions he had with Eddie Booth, M-G-M branch manager at Columbus, Edward F. McClennen, Schine counsel, objected that "branch managers have no authority to make statements on the selling policies of their companies." He was overruled by Judge John Knight. McClennen is scheduled to cross-examine Mooney tomorrow.

PRC'S 'Lights' Opens In Quebec 'V-E' Week

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—PRC's "When the Lights Go On Again" will have its world premiere in Quebec during the week of European V-Day and will be dedicated to President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston D. Churchill, it was revealed here today by Leon Fromkess, production chief, and Leo J. McCarthy, general sales manager.

McCarthy stated that everything is in readiness for the opening, which can be staged on 24 hours' notice. James Lydon and Barbara Belden, co-starred in the film, and director William K. Howard, will make personal appearances.

~~Miniver~~

Mrs. Parkington

"I've got a NEW Mrs. now!"

That's GREER GARSON being kissed by WALTER PIDGEON and, oh boy, how she rates all our love and kisses for her gorgeous performance in M-G-M's "Mrs. Parkington." It's next at Radio City Music Hall and the next Big One in M-G-M's phenomenal parade of TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP MGM Anniversary Hits!

Keep Selling Bonds!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 66 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE

SMPE Seeks Video Parity For Industry

Plea for Experimental Channels Direct to FCC

The Society of Motion Picture Engineers will ask the Federal Communications Commission to place the film industry in the development of television on an equal basis with other interests, it has been learned here.

SMPE's television sub-committee which is seeking the allocation of frequencies between the 400 and 2,000 megacycle channels, will present a petition and report directly to the FCC early next week with P. J. Larsen, representing the SMPE, and Earl Sponable of 20th Century-Fox, as alternate.

The SMPE report does not seek the allocation of frequencies between

(*Continued on page 7*)

Canada Will Not Take Over Films

TORONTO, Oct. 3.—The Canadian government will not take over the film industry in Canada despite all reports to the contrary, John Grierson of the Canadian National Film Board stated here today before the annual meeting of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario. Grierson also said that the government had no plan for further restrictions for the film industry after the war, and added that the natural function of the National Film Board was to concern itself with education, rehabilitation, farming, medical and technical subjects.

At the meeting J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players expressed doubts that the theatre business could continue to absorb heavy taxation after the war.

Reports read to the convention showed a paid membership of 300 and a $6,000 balance in the treasury.

Major Thompson in 6th War Loan Post

Major Leslie E. Thompson, vice-president of RKO, will serve as chairman of the screen, stage and radio section of the Treasury's War Finance Committee here, for the Sixth War Loan drive, it was reported yesterday by William E. Cotter, director of the commerce and industry division. Thompson served in the same capacity in the Fifth War Loan.

Rodgers Bids For Non-goers

Envisaging a period of general prosperity after the war, William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of sales, sees no reason why theatre attendance should drop as a result of "V-E Day," but, on the contrary, sees a good possibility that there will be a greater theatre attendance than ever before in the postwar. This potential new peak is predicated, however, on the ability of film companies to reduce the large

Wm. F. Rodgers

(*Continued on page 7*)

Zukor Hails Griffis' Post in Red Cross

The appointment of Stanton Griffis, chairman of Paramount's executive committee, to the post of Red Cross Commissioner for the Pacific Islands area and the appointment of Harvey D. Gibson of the company's board of directors to another Red Cross post have enabled Paramount to make "an important contribution to the welfare of the world," Adolph Zukor, board chairman, told the home office Paramount Pep Club at a meeting here yesterday.

Griffis, who will leave shortly for headquarters in Hawaii, said farewell

(*Continued on page 10*)

No 'Welcome' for Rank on Canadian Theatres' Doormat

By W. M. GLADISH

TORONTO, Oct. 3.—There continues to be no admission of negotiation in Canadian theatre circuit circles with John Davis, managing director of British Odeon, as an emissary of J. Arthur Rank, with a view to the buy-in of the British film industrialist into a Canadian theatre circuit.

Theatre executives of the Dominion admit, during informal conversations on the subject, that Rank has money to offer but Canadian circuits are in the financial position that something in addition to cash is required to induce a circuit to give up even a part of its control to an outside interest. It is hinted that if Rank had important

(*Continued on page 7*)

Mooney Completes Schine Testimony

BUFFALO, Oct. 3.—Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice today completed his direct examination of Milton A. Mooney of Cleveland, former Warner Bros.' branch manager in that city, devoting his last few questions to the witness' film-sale transactions with the Civic, Roxy and Colonial Theatres in Fostoria; the Ravenna and Ohio in Ravenna, and the Kent Opera House, in Kent, all in Ohio.

Mooney testified that sales of product to the Kent and Ravenna stopped when he obtained instructions from his home office to do so.

"Robert Mochrie, then assistant Eastern sales manager, told me not

(*Continued on page 7*)

NBC Screen Ads Will Start Oct. 22 in 821 Theatres

The film promotion in theatres of NBC radio stars will start in 821 houses in 117 cities on Oct. 22 and will run for eight weeks. Local NBC stations are buying additional screen-time to supplement the network's coverage and about 1,000 theatres will eventually show the series of four 60-second trailers.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Sept. 6, this will be the first time that radio has turned to theatre screens nationally to promote its stars and air shows. Among theatres which will participate are houses of Paramount and 20th Century-Fox affiliated circuits and regional independent circuits.

The promotional trailers will be shown in all large cities except New

(*Continued on page 7*)

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," 20th Century-Fox, and "Shadow of Suspicion," Monogram, will be found on page 10.

Rank Affirms Odeon's Plans For Expansion

Circuit's Net for Year Up to $11,200,000

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Oct. 3.—J. Arthur Rank will tell Odeon Theatres' stockholders at their annual meeting here tomorrow that Odeon plans to expand its operations to include other countries, together with the British Dominions, implying at the same time that Odeon will not rush into newly liberated territories, but will survey with care its expansion possibilities and will undertake them only when political tranquility has been restored.

Rank will point out that 50 per cent of current box office receipts is consumed by direct taxation and will tell the shareholders:

"If the motion picture industry is to be successful it cannot continue to pay the present rate of taxation in the postwar years. My considered view," he said, "is that we must look to an alleviation in the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Rank Hits British Monopoly Report

LONDON, Oct. 3.—Making his first public comment on the recent monopoly report of the British Board of Trade's Film Council's monopoly committee, at the annual meeting of Odeon Theatres' stockholders here tomorrow, J. Arthur Rank will say:

"I look forward to a future wherein the entertainment industry of this country will be allowed to operate under conditions which will grant to enterprise a just reward. This can be so only if industrialists, great and small, can operate freely and if their

(*Continued on page 11*)

'U's' 44-45 Product Near Set: Work

Universal's 1944-45 product is either completed or on the studio's stages, with the exception of two films, Cliff Work, vice-president and general manager in charge of production, revealed here yesterday. Work is here to attend the Universal board of directors meeting tomorrow and to confer with Nate Blumberg, Universal

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES is en route to New York from the Coast.

•

JAMES ALLEN, Warner executive, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast with MRS. ALLEN.

•

H. M. BESSEY, vice-president of Altec Service, has left on a business trip which will bring him to Los Angeles for the company's annual conference, Oct. 16-20.

•

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, became ill recently in St. Louis and is recuperating at Barnes Hospital there.

•

MICHAEL CURTIZ, director, and CHARLES HOFFMAN and LEO TOWNSEND, writers, all Warners, are en route back to Hollywood.

•

M. J. WEISFELDT, Columbia sales executive, is back at his desk here following a business trip through the Midwest.

•

TOM CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of sales, and EDMUND REEK, production head of Movietone News, left yesterday for the Coast.

•

LESTER KRIEGER, Warner Theatres' assistant zone manager in Philadelphia, has left for a two-week vacation in Indiana.

•

BEN BLUMBERG, National Theatre Supply executive in Philadelphia, has returned to his post following a long illness.

•

MORRIS GOLDMAN, Republic's vice-president in charge of foreign sales has arrived in Mexico City from Hollywood.

•

CARL LESERMAN, United Artists, has delayed his departure from Hollywood to New York, until today.

•

LOUIS ROTHENBERG of the Morse and Rothenberg circuit is at New London, Conn., from Boston, for a visit.

•

TIM WHELAN, RKO producer-director, arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

•

SOL SCHWARTZ, head of RKO's out-of-town theatres, left yesterday for Boston and will return tomorrow.

•

LILLIAN HELLMAN will arrive in Hollywood tomorrow from New York.

•

OSCAR A. MORGAN, Paramount short subjects sales chief, left yesterday on a visit to Southern exchanges.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic's assistant general manager, is visiting Atlanta.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Oct. 3

DECISION to rearrange the credit ledger by making associate producers full-rank producers is part of Henry Ginsberg's overall plan to tighten and to fortify further the manpower equation at Paramount. It does not tie to new contracts, rewritten contracts or more money. It does tie to greater enthusiasm and additional recognition of the men who make the product on that lot.

In Hollywood, an associate producer does not occupy the rung of the ladder occupied by a full-scale producer. The f.-r. producer is one notch higher, and notches count mightily here. Part of the accepted system irrevocably hinges on acknowledged, official credits. That's the obvious why of those mile-like lineups which bore the public as each attraction begins to unfurl. This may not excuse the long titles which weigh down the onlooker. At least, it explains them.

■ ■

To: Sherwin Kane.

From: Yours truly.

You were writing about trade paper reporters who are detectives at heart and that recent UA statement reading, "An early settlement of any and all inter-company differences will be made shortly."

If it's sleuthing that counts, here's a contribution:

The UA comment was designed for trade paper consumption strictly. The Selznick-Chaplin situation, also the Chaplin-Selznick situation, stands without change.

What to do about UA's comment? File and forget.

■ ■

Why Arrowhead Productions for Mervyn LeRoy's new company? It's like this: About 50 names were submitted for incorporation. Some had been used earlier, some could not be cleared for various reasons. Then came Arrowhead. That's where LeRoy has his summer home.

Outside Lucey's, the director bumped into Fred Allen and Jack Benny. "We're having dinner Thursday, you know. Got enough dough?", asked Le Roy of Benny.

"Sure. The only time I haven't any money is when I'm working," replied Benny.

Allusion to the tax situation, of course.

Amusement for those who catch it:

A scene in "Shadow of Suspicion," a new Monogram, has Pierre Watkins, in a tycoon role, hurriedly clearing dictation. Picking up three letters and glancing at each in turn, he tells his secretary: "Tell Dunlap I can't see him until next week. I'll see Carr tomorrow—pause. Tell Johnston to come in any time."

Is it required to observe Scott Dunlap is a producer, Trem Carr is executive producer, but W. Ray Johnston is president of the company?

■ ■

Good-Old-Hollywood Tale: About an attraction, shooting for the better part of a year and now over the $2,000,000 mark in cost. No one has seen it except those directly embroiled in its making. Not even the head of the studio. In fact, he hasn't even asked. On his lot, they say he knows better. Meaning by that, excuses not to unreel it would be rustled up without end.

Parallel of this is about a very expensive film, which brought several New York executives West some months ago. They came not to criticize, but to see. Did they? They did not. Reasons: Same as above.

■ ■

If the War Labor Board relaxes the "Little Steel" wage formula, labor costs will advance $12,000,000 annually over present levels in the opinion of a top executive here. To this, he adds grimly:

"Production costs will come down, will they? Not a chance until or unless the economic situation contracts to a degree where everyone starts yelling 'Murder' out of the sheer necessity of it."

■ ■

In the 52 weeks terminating with August, 1944, M-G-M's domestic gross ran away from the gross of the preceding calendar period by almost $7,000,000. Gross for the 52 weeks ending August, 1943, ran away from the like period of the previous year by about $5,000,000.

At Metro, where they're not easily staggered, they are.

■ ■

Many are the stories any wanderer around Hollywood may pick up. They are not always true, but they generally amuse. Here is one, about an individual, which is also factual.

Shouted he, in the approximate dead center of an important conference:

"You are always interrupting me in the middle of a mistake."

Films Help Swedish To Americanize

American films are rapidly creating an English speaking country out of Sweden, Carl York, Paramount manager in Sweden, stated here yesterday. The Paramount representative who had not been in the United States for a decade, has arrived for home office conferences.

So marked is this desire to learn English, York pointed out, that dubbed films cannot be played in Sweden. Paramount's last experiment with a dubbed picture was "An American Tragedy."

There are about 2,000 theatres in Sweden, but the seating capacity is only a little over 500,000. There is no double featuring in Sweden. Sweden this year will make 55 pictures of its own at an average cost of $80,000 each. These pictures, however, occupy 50 per cent of the running time of Sweden's theatres as each release will average 35-40 prints, as against four-five prints on each of the 200 films released by American companies. York will be in America for at least a month.

Deane in Charge of Dubbing for Para.

Albert Deane, for 16 years head of Paramount's foreign publicity at the home office, was appointed yesterday to the post of manager of the department of censorship and editing of company films for foreign markets. He will also have charge of dubbing. Deane also continues as editor of the *Paramounteer* and *Paramount International News*, house publication. As reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Deane's successor is Paul E. Ackerman, who for the past four years has been Paramount's foreign publicity manager.

RKO Will Make 2 in London This Year

RKO will make two films in London for 1944-45, the first to start at Denham studios, London, in December, Robert S. Wolff, managing director in Great Britain disclosed here yesterday.

Wolff returned from California Monday after viewing new RKO, Goldwyn, Disney and International product and discussing British production and distribution plans. He will return to London in about three weeks.

Extortion Appeal Today

Hearing on an appeal by the Chicago mobsters from 10-year jail sentences in the $1,000,000 film industry extortion case, will be held here today before the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

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KISMET

Colossal is the word for Kismet
RONALD COLMAN
M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR MAGIC
KISMET
MARLENE DIETRICH
JAMES CRAIG • EDWARD ARNOLD • HUGH HERBERT • JOY ANN PAGE • FLORENCE BATES • HARRY DAVENPORT
Directed by WILLIAM DIETERLE
Produced by EVERETT RISKIN

KISMET

THE GREATEST
ASTOR ATTRACTION_
Every record in its history smashed!

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
MGM

"KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS"

LITHO U.S.A.

SMPE Seeks Video Parity For Industry

(Continued from page 1)

the 50 and 300 megacycle bands of the spectrum since these channels are being sought for the immediate commercialization of television in the postwar period by television broadcasters. The SMPE is seeking experimental channels in the frequencies being sought by the communications groups. Channels within the frequencies sought would be available for direct pickups of television programs from the film studios and elsewhere, for transmitting programs to theatres within a city, and to relay programs from city to city. The channels would be used for television broadcasting direct to theatres without making the programs available for the general public.

Defend Smith

The SMPE representatives discount the report that David Smith, chairman of the television panel of the Radio Technical Planning Board, had failed to recognize the film industry's television requirements in making recommendations of his panel to the FCC at the opening session of the committee's hearings on postwad allocations last week.

It is pointed out that SMPE's attempt to secure the necessary channels to put theatre television on a parity with the broadcasters will come up when Panel No. 8 of the RTPB, dealing with communications, makes its report.

Members of SMPE's television sub-committee, besides Larsen and Sponable, are: Paul Raibourn, Paramount; Lester B. Isaac, Loew's, and Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith.

Start NBC Screen Ads on Oct. 22

(Continued from page 1)

York, Chicago, Denver, Cleveland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington. An average of 6,700,000 theatre patrons are expected to see the trailers weekly.

Each trailer will feature about six NBC stars and air shows with 25-30 programs being featured in the series. Trailers are now nearing completion with stock shots, secured from the film companies, showing Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Jack Benny, Eddie Cantor, Fibber McGee and Molly, Bob Burns, and others. The total cost to NBC for production, prints and screen time will run to about $200,000. Some 2,000 prints are being made.

The key message in the trailers will be: "See these stars at this theatre and hear them over your favorite local NBC station." Theatres will be paid according to seating capacities with each theatre playing all four of the trailers over a period of four weeks.

Motion Picture Networks, New York, handled the deal for General Screen Advertising with the J. Walter Thompson agency acting for Charles P. Hammond, NBC director of advertising and promotion, who developed the promotion in conjunction with the Thompson office.

Mooney Completes Schine Theatres Trial Testimony

(Continued from page 1)

to negotiate any deals for those two towns," said Mooney.

This action, he said, came after Schine acquired the Opera House in Kent. With regard to Medina, O., Mooney testified when Schine acquired a 25 per cent interest in the Princess Theatre there, in Sept., 1937, WB sold product to that house despite having promised product to the prospective builders of a new theatre.

Cross-examined this afternoon by Saul E. Rogers, Schine counsel, Mooney was forced to admit that of his Majestic, Opera House and Strand theatres in Bellefontaine, only the Strand was operating as a going property.

He admitted the Majestic was opened for only a week during the "Logan County Fair," once a year; that it was closed entirely the last two or three years he held its lease; that it was a small house, had only 250 seats, was a converted store and that it never boasted sound equipment.

Rogers also drew from him testimony that the Opera House was "an upstairs opera house"; that the building was about 75 years old; that it had wooden seats and also lacked sound equipment.

Rogers sought to show that the $2,500 deal with Schine for the theatres to which Mooney testified on Monday pertained only to the sale of equipment in the Strand Theatre, that Mooney had sold some of the equipment in the theatres before Schine took them over and that Daniel Gutilla renewed the leases with Schine rather than Mooney's having assigned them himself.

On the question of admission prices at Schine's New Holland Theatre, and at Mooney's Strand, Rogers drew from Mooney an admission that it was he, and not Schine, who first lowered prices.

Perce Essick, Medina, O., exhibitor, took the stand just before adjournment and testified he was promised WB product while building a new theatre, but, that upon completion of the house he could not obtain product.

Canadian Theatres Deny Rank Buy-in

(Continued from page 1)

established film product to offer as well as cash there would be an inclination to entertain proposals to share capital interest with the British film leader.

Further, it has been suggested that the link between Famous Players Canadian Corp. and Paramount Pictures, New York, could not be disturbed through a financial hook-up with Rank. With Canadian Odeon, it has been stated that Paul Nathanson has a money-making circuit and he does not need additional capital for postwar expansion. Nathanson's Empire-Universal Films has already acquired a selected list of Rank's British films for Canadian distribution, including bookings into Famous Players and other houses.

At the same time, no little interest was aroused in the Canada-wide inspection tour recently made by Davis when the latter was reported to be studying Canadian theatre conditions. That might mean Rank proposed to build his own theatres in the Dominion following failure to buy into existing circuits. That threat might offset the argument that Rank's cash would be more welcome if he also had plenty of big pictures to offer.

It is news to Canadians that Davis plans a return visit to the Dominion.

Wilkie's Father Dies

Albert L. Wilkie, father of Al Wilkie, Paramount publicity manager here, died at the age of 87 at Hollywood Hospital, in Hollywood, on Monday night. He will be buried in West Virginia.

Louis Newman Dies

BUFFALO, Oct. 3.—Louis Newman, 72, former operator of the Masque and Sun theatres here, died recently following a short illness.

Rodgers Bids for Theatre Non-goers

(Continued from page 1)

numbers who do not attend films at all, estimated to be 10,000,000 by George Gallup's Audience Research, and the even larger total who attend infrequently, from three to four times a year.

Rodgers said that M-G-M is "aggressively soliciting" this business. Supporting its product in M-G-M's bid for this new patronage, he said, is its expanded advertising program, expansion of its exhibitor relations department, its continuing policy of seeking to help exhibitors increase their own patronage, its exploitation program and the tailoring of a new pressbook to suit the needs of small-town exhibitors.

In Rodgers' opinion any shortage of product that may have existed has been eased by suburban runs playing more extended runs because there are so many good films. Exhibitors, generally, are playing pictures longer than a year ago, Rodgers said. M-G-M pictures now average some 14,000 contracts.

Richey, Brooks to Exhibitor Meets

H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, will leave on Friday on a ten-day trip during which he will attend the Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan annual meeting in Detroit, Oct. 9-11, and the Allied Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania convention, Oct. 16-17, in Pittsburgh. Walter Brooks, his assistant, will accompany him part of the way.

Sam Fox's Mother Dies

Mrs. Simon Fox, mother of Sam and Harry Fox of the Sam Fox Music Publishing Co., died at her home in Cleveland on Monday at the age of 82. Funeral services will be held tomorrow in Cleveland.

Rank Affirms Odeon's Plans For Expansion

(Continued from page 1)

present entertainment tax, particularly when it is borne in mind that the approximate percentage of Odeon's prewar revenue which went for entertainment tax alone was 13 and now is 39 per cent."

Odeon's net profit for the past fiscal year, shareholders will be informed, was $11,200,000, compared with net profit of $8,400,000 for the previous year. Odeon is capitalized at $10,000,000. Taxes for the past fiscal year amounted to $2,876,000. Reserve for future taxation, war damage contribution and related charges now exceeds $16,000,000.

Odeon theatres are valued at $63,200,000, but the amount is regarded here as extremely conservative in the light of current market conditions. Attendance at Odeon theatres increased 25,000,000 during the past year to more than 180,000,000.

Explains Davis Trip

Rank's statement on Odeon expansion plans is viewed here as the first official public hint of the purpose of the projected second visit of John Davis to Canada, which he is scheduled to begin in about two weeks. It was reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Sept. 28 that Davis would endeavor to close a deal for the acquisition by Rank of an interest in one of several Canadian circuits.

Rank will say of Odeon's expansion plans: "We propose to expand our activities to other countries, including the British Dominions, but only following careful research, ensuring that such investments as we make will show a reasonable return on capital. We do not intend to commence operating in any country until we are reasonably assured that political differences in such countries have been satisfactorily settled."

'U's' 44-45 Product Near Set: Work

(Continued from page 1)

president, and William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, on potentialities for the 1945-46 program, in which emphasis will be on postwar subjects, comedies and mysteries, Work added.

Work said the new Deanna Durbin film now nearing completion will be released around Christmas. "Queen of the Nile," another in color, featuring Lola Montez and Jon Hall, is being readied for release next Spring, he said.

Work said that production costs are still rising due to increased costs of labor and supplies. He expects that once the European War is over, the situation will become more settled. Work expects to return to California Friday.

C. P. Washichek Dies

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 3.—Charles P. Washichek, 67, theatre operator, died here recently. Washichek, with his family, was at one time a performer with circuses. Surviving are his widow, a son and daughter.

BOX-OFFIC

You bet

WE'RE ON TH

WARNING!

—Just because RKO'S newest group of five pictures contains THREE of the season's TOPS—"NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART"—"THE MASTER RACE"—"TALL IN THE SADDLE"—we post this friendly warning to exhibitors not to overlook the high-grossing possibilities of the sleeper on the list—"MY PAL, WOLF"

Take your money tip from the Trade Press on "My Pal, Wolf": "Set this one apart as a sleeper and give it running room at a time when entertainment counts," from *Motion Picture Daily*..."A sleeper...excellent and sustained entertainment, and focusing attention on a new child, Sharyn Moffett" from *Variety*, and "Has definite sleeper possibilities...Good in any situation," from *Showmen's Trade Review*.

GO AT RKO!

Hollywood Has 50 Pictures In Production

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 3.—Two pictures were completed and others started in a week which closed with 50 features before cameras. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Song of Tahiti."

Shooting: "Eadie Was a Lady," "Counterattack," "Together Again."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Hold High the Torch," "Women's Army," "Thrill of a Romance," "The Clock," "Anchors Aweigh," "Son of Lassie," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Finished: "Gun Smoke" (formerly "Saddle Smoke").

Shooting: "G. I. Honeymoon," "Saddle Pals."

Paramount

Started: "Duffy's Tavern," with Ed Gardner, Eddie Green, Charley Cantor, Marjorie Reynolds, Barry Sullivan, Victor Moore, and guest stars; "High Man," with Robert Lowery, Roger Pryor, Phyllis Brooks, Mary Treen, Ed Gargan, Joe Sawyer.

Shooting: "Salty O'Rourke," "Miss Susie Slagle's.

PRC

Shooting: "Strange Illusion."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Come Share My Love," "China Sky," "Experiment Perilous," "Zombie on Broadway," "Isle of the Dead" (suspended), "It's a Pleasure" (International), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn), "Tarzan and the Amazons" (Lesser).

Republic

Started: "Chicago Kid," with Donald Barry, Lynne Roberts, Otto Crehan, Henry Daniels; "Topeka Terror," with Allan Lane, Linda Stirling, 'Twinkle' Watts.

Shooting: "Lake Placid Serenade," "Hitchhike to Happiness," "Great Flamarion" (William Wilder).

20th-Fox

Shooting: "Czarina," "Where Do We Go From Here," "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," "Hangover Square," "Nob Hill."

United Artists

Shooting: "The Tuckers of Texas (PCA), "Delightfully Dangerous" (Rogers), "Brewster's Millions" (Small), "It's in the Bag" (Skirball).

Universal

Shooting: "Fairy Tale Murder," "Suspect," "Salome — Where She Danced," "Frisco Sal."

Warners

Shooting: "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Of Human Bondage," "Nobody Lives Forever," "San Antonio."

Independent

Started: "Wildfire" (Action Pictures), with Bob Steele, Eddie Dean, Sterling Holloway, Virginia Mapes.

Shooting: "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" (W. R. Frank).

Reviews

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling"

(20th Century-Fox)

DAMON RUNYON has produced a rowdy, dazzling musical in color as a semi-biographical tribute to Ernest R. Ball, who wrote "Mother Machree," "Boy o' Mine" and "Let the Rest of the World Go By," as well as the film's title song and other sentimental tunes that brought him fame before the last war. Headlined by a couple of pleasant new stars and backed by some old marquee favorites, it should do well at the box office, especially since the script writers, Earl Baldwin and John Tucker Battle, balance the nostalgia of the lyrics with a story about as tender as a good catfight.

Dick Haymes, fairly new to the screen, has made Ball a fascinating character: soft-hearted when seated at th piano and flightily hot-blooded in the presence of his eternal Irish inspiration, June Haver, burlesque chorine, who, for her own part, specializes in quick lefts to the jaw. He meets and loses her in Cleveland when they're both obscure and broke; then, after he hits the jackpot, he finds her checking hats at Churchill's in New York. Here develops the real plot complication, a slender but neat trick whereby the musician's mentor, Monty Woolley, sneaks a famous actress, Beverly Whitney, into the ladies' room and bets his gambling rival, Anthony Quinn, that he can make a star of the first woman who comes out. Of course it's the hat-check girl, pushed and sprawling after a scuffle and mad as a hornet at the boy friend because she doesn't know what's going on. Nor does she get wise until after Quinn, to collect his wager, has railroaded her almost to Cuba. Then, naturally, stardom and love.

Gregory Ratoff's direction keeps the action broad and noisy, and the many song-and-dance numbers staged by Alfred Newman and Charles Henderson follow much the same course, except when Leonard Warren and Blanche Thebom of the Metropolitan Opera have the spotlight. For good measure, Maxie Rosenbloom is on hand, to knock out the composer once when his lady isn't slugging at him herself.

Running time, 90 mins. "G"*. Release in block No. 3. TOM LOY

"Shadow of Suspicion"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Oct. 3

SHOWMEN can rate this A. W. Hackel production right up with the toppers in the field of button-button-who's-got-the-jewels thrillers. With a few bigger names to exploit and perhaps a touch of polish here and there in the interests of comedy, it could take care of itself in top spots. It's way above par for its category.

Marjorie Weaver and Peter Cookson are the leads, the former portraying a jewel dealer's secretary and the latter a young man who acts like a jewel thief, but isn't really. And a nice job they turn in, with Tim Ryan, Pierre Watkin, Clara Blandick and the other supporting players going along as nicely.

The script, by Albert DeMond and Earle Snell, is intricately contrived but fast-flowing and preserves suspense until the last possible moment. It concerns a plot to steal jewels from a Chicago dealer and it manages to put everybody but the audience under suspicion at one time or another. Direction, by William Beaudine, is one of his best recent jobs.

Running time, 68 minutes. "G."* Release date, Sept. 23.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"G" denotes general classification.

Zukor Hails Griffis' Post in Red Cross

(*Continued from page* 1)

to the Paramount organization and reported that the Red Cross work in the Pacific would not be so much of a "doughnuts-and-coffee" nature but would deal, rather, with "greater morale values," such as maintaining contact between the men at the front and their families.

Carl York, Paramount managing director for Sweden and the Scandinavian countries, introduced by Claude Lee, expressed pleasure on visiting the United States after a lapse of ten years.

At a business session, the Pep Club elected new officers for 1944-45, as follows: J. L. Brown of the comptroller's office, president; Richard O'Connell of the foreign department, vice-president; Richard Bennett of the accounting department, treasurer, and Rose Mirell, secretary. New members of the board of governors are: G. Knox Haddow, outgoing president; George Weltner, David Cassidy, Harriet Miller and Al Sicignano.

Local 306 to Take Over Harlem MPPA

The IATSE New York projectionists' Local No. 306 will absorb one of the last two remaining projectionists' unions in New York at a meeting at Manhattan Center here today when it will take over the Motion Picture Projectionists Association, embracing Negro projectionists employed in theatres in Harlem.

The only union standing in the way of Local 306's campaign to have complete jurisdiction over all projectionists in this area is the Independent Motion Picture Projectionists, which has about 100 members. Local 306 has about 2,375 members in about 500 theatres in the Metropolitan area.

Legion Classifies Seven New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following: A-1, The Great Mike," and "When the Lights Go On Again," PRC, and "Trigger Law," Monogram; A-2, "Carolina Blues," Columbia; "The Climax," Universal; "Enemy of Women," Monogram; class B, "The Merry Monahans," Universal.

Brandt Plans Meet on Mayor's 'V-E' Idea

Harry Brandt, who represented the managers of Broadway film houses at Mayor LaGuardia's meeting on "V-E Day" plans last week, will call a session of the heads of other local theatres to implement the Mayor's request that show "breaking" hours be staggered on the night of victory in Europe, provided the necessity for such action becomes apparent as the date approaches and the likely temper of the public is determined.

The Mayor's suggestion is designed to keep streets from becoming clogged with people during show-closing hours.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933

Of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, published daily (except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays), at New York, New York, for October 1, 1944.

STATE OF NEW YORK } ss.:
COUNTY OF NEW YORK }

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Theo. J. Sullivan, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the MOTION PICTURE DAILY and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, and Editor-in-Chief, Martin Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Editor, Sherwin Kane, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Managing Editor, Sherwin Kane, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Business Manager, Theo. J. Sullivan, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

2. That the owner is: (if owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.): Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Martin J. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Gertrude S. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Martin S. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Colvin W. Brown, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is 4810. (This information is required from daily publications only.)

THEO. J. SULLIVAN,
Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of September, 1944.

(SEAL) DOROTHY S. KAVANAGH,
(My commission expires March 30, 1946.)

Philadelphia Key Runs Prosper; $35,000 for 'Kitty'

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 3.—The week got off on an excellent start with the return of vaudeville to the Earle, the appearance of Lena Horne on the stage, and "Kansas City Kitty" on screen accounting for $35,000 for a six-day week. Of the new openings, "Kismet" got off to a big start at the Stanley, pointing to $32,000 in addition to $4,200 for a Sunday dual showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 4-6:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
ALDINE — (900) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $14,600).

"Mrs. Skeffington" (WB)
ARCADIA — (600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,900. (Average: $4,000).

"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
BOYD — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $18,000).

"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.) (6 days)
"Kismet" (M-G-M) (1 day)
EARLE — (3,000) (45c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Lene Horne, Georgie Auld's Orchestra, The Three Sailors, Larry and Lynn, Patti Powers. Gross: $39,200. (Average: $27,600).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
FOX — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. 2nd run. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,500).

"In Society" (Univ.)
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c145c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,600).

"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days 3rd week. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $22,500).

"Kismet" (M-G-M)
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c 85c) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $20,000.

"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
STANTON — (1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $9,400).

Forty Will Attend Equipment Meeting

CHICAGO, Oct. 3. — Forty members of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association are expected to attend the convention at the Bismarck Hotel here Oct. 6-8. Ray Colvin of Exhibitors Supply, St. Louis, secretary of the TEDPA, is due here to handle last-minute arrangements.

Speakers will include: Allen G. Smith, WPB theatre head, and Nathan D. Golden of the Department of Commerce, both of whom will come from Washington. Exhibits will include DeVry and RCA which will display equipment being used by the Armed Forces.

Testimonial for Garcia

Ramon Garcia, Universal's general manager in Cuba, was recently given a testimonial dinner in Havana in recognition of his 25 years in the industry in that country, 'U's' home office reported here yesterday. Among those present were: Dr. R. Garcia Ordonez, Universal's attorney in Cuba; Pedro Saenz, RKO manager; William Heagney, Bank of Boston; Charles Kirby, Universal International; Ernesto P. Smith, Columbia manager and head of the Smith Circuit: Vicente and Alberto Blanco, Cuban distributors; Henry Weiner, United Artists; Dr. Jorge Casuso, Film Board of Cuba, and others.

Hellman Here on Production Deal

Marcel Hellman, managing director and producer of Excelsior Films, Ltd., London, is here to discuss a joint production deal with some American company with a view to making films for the world market in England. Hellman will remain here for eight weeks, during which he will visit Hollywood to engage players and other talent.

More studio space is expected to be made available soon to British producers, Hellman said, with the British Board of Trade assisting in this direction. Possibility exists, he said, that by the beginning of year several large studios may be turned back to British producers by the Government for commercial production.

Up until this year Hellman was a member of J. Arthur Rank's Independent Producers, Ltd., during which he produced "Secret Mission" and "They Met in the Dark," which are being distributed here by English Films and in England by General Films, a Rank company.

Hellman is also here to arrange for production of the play, "This Was a Woman," current in London, and is also looking at American plays to take back for presentation in London.

'Wilson's' $20,000 Best in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Oct. 3.—"Wilson," with $20,000 in its third week at the RKO Palace, was tops in one of the poorest weeks of the season, due in part to rain. "Wing and a Prayer" opened fairly well at Warners' Hippodrome, with the week's take there estimated at $18,000, which is under average.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 4:

"Address Unknown" (Col.)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,500).

"A Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $22,100).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200).

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (75c-$1.10) 2nd week. Stage: Bob Chester orchestra and Belita. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,400).

"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,000)

"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

Launching Lesser Film

Louis Hyman, general manager for Sol Lesser Productions, is here from Hollywood to launch an advertising-publicity campaign on Lesser's "Three's a Family," to be released by United Artists. He will be here for several weeks.

Carole Landis Cited

Carole Landis, 20th Century-Fox star, was presented with a Treasury Department award by Quentin Reynolds at Ebbets Field, Brooklyn, this week during a "Bond Bowl Game" between the Brooklyn Tigers and a servicemen's eleven.

$19,000 for 'Lace'; $13,500 is Average

CINCINNATI, Oct. 3.—RKO's Palace is leading here with an expected $19,000 for "Arsenic and Old Lace, exceeding the house average by $5,500. A $16,000 gross is indicated for "Bride by Mistake" at RKO's Albee.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 4-7:

"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week on a moveover from the Albee and Grand. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Black Magic" (Mono.)
"The Utah Kid" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,400).

"Block Busters" (Mono.)
"Machine Gun Mama" (PRC)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $850. (Average: $800).

"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
RKO PALACE — (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M, reissue)
RKO SHUBERT—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

Trigger Hosts Press, Republic Executives

Trigger, Roy Rogers' palomino, was host at a reception here yesterday in the Hotel Astor for trade paper, newspaper, magazine and radio representatives.

Invited from Republic's home office were: Walter L. Titus, Jr., Steve Edwards, Charles Reed Jones, Albert Schiller, Edward Seifert, E. L. Becker, Seymour Borus, Evelyn Koleman Jim Conniff and Beatrice Ross, and Maxwell Gillis, Eastern district sales manager, Grover C. Schaefer, New York branch manager, and H. J Yates, Jr., M. H. Lavenstein, R. V Altschuler, Ralph Poucher and Milton C. Green.

Rank Hits British Monopoly Report

(*Continued from page 1*)

enterprise receives commensurate rewards.

"I do not believe that industry can be run efficiently by a bureaucracy. I do not think it is possible for any government to be as bold in undertaking new developments as the enterprising individuals who built up the British industry. By the very nature of its development our industry relies on strong organizations and, while I welcome competition, I strongly deprecate the suggestion that this industry be controlled along the lines suggested in the monopoly report. I do not believe such control to be in the best interests of the film industry."

Kennedy with M-G-M

Marvin Schenck announced here yesterday that Bob Kennedy, formerly of Lyons and Lyons agency, has joined the talent staff of M-G-M in New York.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 3.

BARBARA BRITTON has been chosen to play the feminine lead in Paramount's "The Virginian." This will be a dramatization in color of the Owen Wister novel. . . . Sidney Toler, who stars in the title role of Monogram's "Charlie Chan" series, has turned to writing, recently completing a script which will be used for one of his future pictures. . . . 20th Century-Fox has borrowed Carlos Ramirez from M-G-M for a featured singing and dramatic role in "Where Do We Go From Here?". . . . Walter Slezak has signed a one-picture deal with Universal and will appear in "Salome—Where She Danced." . . . Howard Bretherton will direct "The Topeka Terror," Allan Lane's next Western for Republic.

•

Bing Crosby's four sons, who range in age from six to 11, will appear in a comedy sketch with William Bendix in Paramount's musical, "Duffy's Tavern." . . . In line with his stated policy of employing veterans of World War II, Charles R. Rogers states he has cast 50 ex-servicemen in "High Among the Stars." . . . Angela Greene, soon to be seen in "Hollywood Canteen," has had her Warner contract renewed. . . . Frank MacDonald's first assignment under his new multiple-picture deal with Republic will be "Chicago Kid." . . . Peter Cookson will have the lead opposite Gale Storm in the Monogram comedy, "G. I. Honeymoon." . . . June Allyson, recently named a winner in the Motion Picture Herald-Fame *"Stars of Tomorrow" poll, has been given an important role in "Her Highness and the Bellboy," which Richard Thorpe will direct and Joseph Pasternak produce for M-G-M.*

20,000 Launch Fund Drive at Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 3.—An estimated 20,000 workers, attending a mass meeting at all studios this noon, heard a special broadcast over Station KFWB keynoting the start of the Hollywood War Chest campaign, which seeks a record total donation from the production community. Campaign chairman Charles W. Koerner was the chief speaker on the broadcast, which included addresses by Edward Arnold, George Murphy, Jane Murfin, John Cromwell. and other guild and union leaders.

$69,741 Rodeo Record

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 3.—Roy Rogers, Republic star, set a new rodeo box-office record at the Philadelphia Arena, where he grossed $69,741 for seven evening performances and one matinee ending Saturday night. Rogers made his first rodeo appearance here three years ago, when he grossed $13,000, according to Peter Tyrell, manager of the arena.

Monogram Contest On

Monogram has launched a 13-week competitive sales and collections drive under the name of the "Monogram Victory Parade" with prizes of $14,350. Company exchanges have been divided into three sections.

starring

VERA HRUBA RALSTON · RICHARD ARLEN · ERICH VON STROHEIM

with **OTTO KRUGER · EDUARDO CIANNELLI · ROBERT LIVINGSTON · MONA BARRIE**

GEORGE SHERMAN, *Director* • *Original Story by* ELIZABETH MEEHAN • *Adaptation by* DANE LUSSIER • *Screenplay by* DORIS GILBERT

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 67 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1944 TEN CENTS

Grosses Still Far Ahead Of Last Year

September Included 2nd Highest Week in 1944

Although the opening of schools resulted in the usual annual drop in September box office receipts, the month's grosses at some 150 key first-run spots bettered those registered during August, and weekly averages per theatre continued to outstrip last year by about $2,000, according to MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents' reports.

The week ending Sept. 8-9 resulted in an average of $18,775, second highest of the year and the best since early January. Then, as schools got under way, the figure dropped to September's lowest, $16,697, but even this was more than the average taken in during two of August's four weeks. For the seven days ending Sept. 22-23, the figure climbed back to $17,164 and

(Continued on page 7)

Admits Attempt to 'Control' Situation

BUFFALO, Oct. 4.—Trial of the Government anti-trust suit against the Schine Circuit in Federal District court here today was highlighted by an admission by a Government witness, Perce E. Essick, who with Myer S. Fine operates theatres in metropolitan Cleveland, that while he was building a theatre in Medina, O., he first endeavored to get that town's two theatres "together" so it would be easier to "control the situation."

Essick's admission was elicited by Edward F. McClennen, Schine counsel, during cross examination of the

(Continued on page 6)

OWI Confirms Post For Armour Abroad

Robert Riskin, director of the Office of War Information overseas film bureau, confirmed here yesterday the appointment of Reginald Armour, former RKO European manager, by the OWI to handle an overseas film distribution assignment. MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Sept. 28 reported that Armour was slated for the post. Armour has not as yet been assigned a

(Continued on page 7)

Can File Orders Now for Postwar

Washington, Oct. 4.—The War Production Board today flashed the green light for the placing and acceptance of orders for postwar delivery of materials and products now subject to priority restrictions or other controls.

It was made clear that a manufacturer may not schedule such postwar orders for actual production, or usage, until after the applicable restriction is removed. Postwar orders, however, will require no priority or other ratings.

British Aid Rebuilding

LONDON, Oct. 4.—The British Film Producers Association and the National Association of Theatrical and Kinematograph Employes have agreed with the request of the Ministry of Labor to immediately release a first batch of studio carpenters, plasterers and painters to help repair devastation in London wrought by bombing.

The men will start the job Oct. 16, with the Ministry giving assurance that the men will return to the studios as soon as repairs are sufficiently advanced, with producers undertaking to keep their jobs open.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported on Aug. 17, in a cable from London, that the Labor Ministry had confronted the BFPA with a demand

(Continued on page 6)

Divorcement Won't Help Independents, Kuykendall Asserts

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 4.—Divorcement of affiliated theatres is a practically worthless aim insofar as independent interests are concerned, Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president, told a convention of the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Ass'n here today.

Ed Kuykendall

He reviewed recent MPTOA statements, published earlier, on the Government's proposed new amendments to the decree.

Kuykendall expressed the opinion

(Continued on page 7)

Film Extortionists' Appeal on Here

Arguments in the appeals by six Chicagoans and Louis Kaufman, former business agent of Local 244, projectionists union of Newark, from convictions under the Federal Anti-Racketeering Act conspiracy indictment which charged them with extorting more than $1,000,000 from the industry, began before the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here yesterday. The arguments will be concluded

(Continued on page 6)

Fabian, Skouras, Griffith, O'Donnell in 6th Drive

Starting a move to tap the fullest resources of the entire industry for war-bond-selling experience for the forthcoming drive, Harry Brandt, national chairman, yesterday announced the appointment of S. H. Fabian, L. C. Griffith, Charles Skouras, R. J. O'Donnell, all previous industry bond drive chairmen, to serve as honorary chairmen in the industry's participation in the drive, Nov. 20 to Dec. 16.

The group will work with all of the various committees now nearing mobilization for the industry's campaign.

Following discussions with the honorary chairmen, the drive committee revealed that plans are now in motion for the awarding of 'Medals of Honos' to all exhibitors active in the approaching $14,000,000,000 drive.

The five newsreels will again participate in the drive by maintaining steady coverage of national events focusing attention on the sixth campaign, and by running special bulletins playing up stars and war heroes appealing for the purchase of additional bonds.

First in the series of special newsreel subjects, for release Oct. 19, will consist of a bulletin on the occasion

(Continued on page 7)

Canada Trade Establishes Conciliation

Clearance, Premiums to Be Treated First

TORONTO, Oct. 4.—After an all-day session behind closed doors an industry conference resulted today in the announcement that a conciliation code has been adopted for Canada but the intimation was forthcoming that further meetings are necessary to iron out many final details.

According to an unofficial, yet reliable, source it was stated that a conciliation procedure has been agreed upon for clearance disputes and the question of premiums distributed by theatres, but one has not yet been adopted for rental prices, contract groupings or release priorities. It is also understood that a proposal for a trade appeal board in Toronto was not accepted, while the regional conciliation boards will function inde-

(Continued on page 6)

RKO Theatre Union Bargaining Deferred

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, said yesterday, "There will be a revision in the supervisory system for RKO theatres which will radically affect the responsibilities previously exercised by theatre managers."

Rathvon's statement followed a meeting yesterday between company officials and representatives of Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild at

(Continued on page 7)

Griffis to Leave for Hawaii Tomorrow

Stanton Griffis, chairman of Paramount's executive committee on leave of absence, will leave New York tomorrow for Hawaii. He will take over as commissioner of the Red Cross in the Pacific Islands.

Griffis announced yesterday the appointment of A. Conger Goodyear and

(Continued on page 7)

Reviewed Today

Review of "I'm From Arkansas," PRC, will be found on page six.

New 'Gift-Films' in Nazi Prison Camps

American war prisoners in Germany are now seeing new American films in prison camps, it was disclosed here yesterday by Dr. Tracy Strong, general secretary of the World YMCA, who has just returned from Stockholm after a tour of European film distribution centers established by YMCA War Prisoners' Aid. Recent shipments, he revealed, include "Step Lively," "Casanova Brown," "Higher and Higher," "In Society," "Arsenic and Old Lace," plus three that have not yet been released in this country, "Saratoga Trunk," "Devotion" and "Crime by Night."

The films, part of the industry's War Activities Committee world-wide gift film program to the Armed Forces, are turned over to the YMCA by the U. S. Army Pictorial Service. Prints travel via Red Cross boat to Marseilles, thence to Geneva, and from Geneva into Germany for distribution to the camps. YMCA workers who visit the camps regularly report the reception of pictures by the American prisoners as "enthusiastic and grateful."

Dr. Strong reported that pictures for U. S. war prisoners are subjected to heavy censorship by authorities in this country before they are allowed to leave here, and by the German censors before they are permitted to be shown in the camps. An average of 25 programs monthly, of features and short subjects, are now passing the required tests.

Alperson Will Start First in 2 Months

Edward L. Alperson will start production in about two months on "Black Beauty," his first production, to be released by 20th Century-Fox under a recently concluded six-film distribution deal covering a period of two years. Alperson will leave for California next Monday.

The script for "Black Beauty" has been completed by Lillian Hayward, who did the screenplay of "My Friend Flicka." His second film will be based on Somerset Maugham's "Sheppy," the play.

Para. Workers' Bond Buy is 10 Millions

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 4.—Purchase of war bonds by employes of the Paramount studio total $10,000,000 to date, it has been reported by Ralph Green, manager of the Paramount Studio Employes Federal Union, issuing agency for the securities.

Gail Russell, company player, purchased a $100 bond which made the total an even $10,000,000.

'It's Murder!' to Talkers

The War Activities Committee will screen a new OWI short, titled "It's Murder!", made to help cut down loose talk about troop movements, at RKO's home office tomorrow. It was produced by Columbia, released through the Office of War Information and distributed through the industry's War Activities Committee.

Personal Mention

SPYROS SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, left by plane for the Coast yesterday.

•

LIEUT. (j.g.) ROBERT L. ESTILL, USN. formerly Paramount head booker in Seattle, has returned after two years in the Aleutians and this week visited GEORGE A. SMITH, Western division sales manager, and other home office executives.

•

H. BOB ENGEL, sales manager for the DeVry Corp. of Chicago, has returned to that city following a three-week's business trip on the West coast.

•

JOHN R. WOOD, JR., March of Time sales manager, is visiting the Buffalo 20th Century-Fox exchange and will go to the Cleveland and Detroit offices before returning to New York.

•

P/O THOMAS DOWBIGGIN, RCAF, son of TOM DOWBIGGIN, veteran Paramount exchange manager in Toronto, is a prisoner after a raid over Germany.

•

LIEUT. JACK BRAUNAGEL, formerly with Intermountain Theatres in Logan, Utah, and MRS. BRAUNAGEL are vacationing in New York.

•

HENLEY SMITH, owner of the Imperial Theatre, Pocohontas, Ark., and MRS. SMITH are in New York on vacation.

•

EGON KLEIN, representative of Calderon Productions, Mexico City, will return there next week after visiting here for several months.

•

WILMA FREEMAN, United Artists promotion manager, will leave for the Coast tomorrow.

•

IRVING RAPPER, Warner director, will leave here Monday for Hollywood.

•

PHILIP KEENAN, general manager of Hillman Periodicals, has left for Toledo.

•

BUDD ROGERS and MRS. ROGERS will leave for Hollywood tomorrow.

•

MARY PICKFORD will leave for the Coast by train today.

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, president of M-G-M, will arrive from the Coast on Monday.

•

FLORENCE GORDON of Warner district manager CHARLES RICH'S staff at Cleveland, is resigning to marry 1ST. LIEUT. PHILIP ASTER when he returns after two years in Alaska about Oct. 15.

•

J. B. UNDERWOOD, Southwestern division manager for Columbia with headquarters in Dallas, is meeting with RUBE JACKTER, assistant general sales manager, in Oklahoma City.

•

WILLIAM MARCHESE of M-G-M's sales department, and MRS. MARCHESE, former M-G-M employe, are celebrating their fifth wedding anniversary.

•

LT. LEONARD SPINRAD, now of the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service and formerly with Warners Eastern publicity department, will marry THELMA ZIPKIN in November.

•

JOSEPH FRIEDMAN, Columbia's managing director in England, is awaiting a transportation priority to permit his early return to London.

•

RALPH STITT of 20th-Fox's home office publicity department is in Hartford from New York.

•

JACOB SEGAL, Columbia's assistant foreign sales manager will return Monday from a vacation.

•

MOE SHERMAN, Monogram salesman in Philadelphia, is resting at home following an illness.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice president of Trans Lux Theatres, will leave for Washington today.

•

ROGER FERRI, editor of *Dynamo*, 20th Century-Fox house organ, is en route to Hollywood.

•

DON MILI, Warner director, will arrive in New York tomorrow from the coast.

•

I. F. DOLID, supervisor of Warner exchanges, left yesterday for Boston. He will return at the weekend.

20th Gets B. and K. House for 'Wilson'

CHICAGO, Oct. 4.—"Wilson" will finally get a Chicago release through 20th Century-Fox's leasing of Balaban and Katz's Apollo in the Loop for 10 weeks, starting Oct. 18. "Wilson," "Since You Went Away" and other important current pictures have been held up in this area because of a lack of Loop first-run outlets due to holdovers and subsequent product jams, as reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, in town to address the Greek War Relief Association, is mapping promotion plans for "Wilson" with Jack Lorentz, district manager.

Testimonial for Irving Wormser

Exhibitors, distributors, press and representatives of allied fields paid tribute yesterday to Irving Wormser at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here. Wormser has resigned as assistant to Nat Cohn, Columbia's district manager here, to become a sales executive of Film Classics.

Some 300 were present at the testimonial, with the following on the dais: Louis Nizer, Fred Schwartz, Si Fabian, Harry Brandt, Sam Rinzler, Joseph Seider, Harold Mirish, Max Cohen, E. L. Goldhammer, Leo Brecher, William White, Louis Frisch, Louis Weinberg, Eugene Picker, Edward Alperson.

Balaban Sees Marine Son in Para. News

Barney Balaban, Paramount president, recognized his son, Sgt. Burt Balaban, with the Marines in the South Pacific, in the current Paramount newsreel. The films were among the last taken by Damien Parer, Paramount cameraman who was last week reported killed in the Peleliu Islands.

Young Balaban is a combat photographer and has also written syndicated articles while photographing jungle battles from bombers. He has been with the Marine Corps for two years and has seen service on Truk, Wake, the Marianas and Guam.

Klarsfeld Safe in Paris, Reports Hicks

Henry Klarsfeld, Paramount's prewar general manager of distribution in Paris, has turned up there in good health and ready to rejoin the company, according to a cable received in New York yesterday by John W. Hicks, Jr., president of Paramount International. No word had been received from Klarsfeld for the past 27 months. Klarsfeld joined the company in January, 1921, as a salesman.

MacMurray, Fenton Organize Mutual

HOLLWOOD, Oct. 4.—Fred MacMurray and Leslie Fenton have organized their own unit, to be known as Mutual Productions with one picture already set, "Pardon My Past," in which MacMurray will star and Fenton produce and direct. MacMurray's 20th Century-Fox contract allows him to appear in outside productions. No release channel for the picture has been set.

Hal Chester Forms Production Unit

Hal E. Chester, formerly associated with "The Little Tough Guys" and "The East Side Kids," will produce two films a year, through his own new independent unit.

Chester, who has acquired film rights to Ham Fisher's cartoon character, "Joe Palooka," will base his first film on an original Fisher story, as yet untitled. Negotiations are now under way for a releasing channel and a director.

18th for Century

Century Circuit, operating 17 theatres in Brooklyn, will open the Linden Theatre there on Oct. 12. Receipts of the opening day will go to the Red Cross.

'Woman' Tradeshow

The New York trade-showing of International's "The Woman in the Window," distributed by RKO, previously set for the RKO exchange here, Monday, will be screened instead at the Normandie Theatre.

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Welcome to Warners

AS THE COMPANY FOR WHICH

TRIUMPHS,

WE ARE ALI

Mervyn

HE

ARROWHEAD PRO

FOR DISTRIBUTION BY

† After completing 'The Robe'.

HE CREATED HIS EARLIEST

PARTICULARLY PROUD THAT

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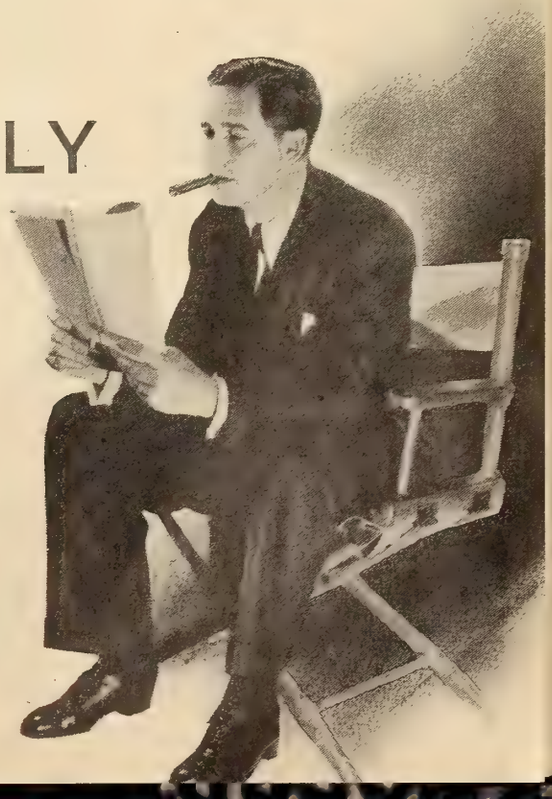
UCTIONS EXCLUSIVELY

Warners



JACK L. WARNER, Executive Producer

Film Extortionists' Appeal Arguments Are Started Here

(Continued from page 1)

today when Boris Kostelanetz, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, replies for the Government.

The defendants, Louis Campagna, Paul De Lucia, Philip D'Andrea, Francis Maritote, Charles Gioe and John Rosselli, all of Chicago, and Kaufman, were found guilty by a Federal jury and sentenced on Dec. 22, last. Kaufman received a seven-year term, the others 10 years each. Also, all seven were fined $10,000 each.

William Scott Stewart, of Chicago; Congressman Vito Marcantonio, and J. Bertram Wegman, defense attorneys, claiming more than 100 trial errors, urged the Circuit Court to reverse the jury's verdict and order a new trial.

"The Court allowed the Government to prove the state of mind of the victims," argued Stewart, referring to the testimony of film producing company executives, who testified that they feared the "closing of every film theatre in the United States" unless the extortion demands of the convicted were met. "That clearly was error," he charged.

Allege Conspiracy

During the trial, testimony was adduced to the effect that the seven, gangsters, together with William Bioff, former personal representative of George E. Browne, former IATSE president, and the latter, conspired to effect Browne's election to the IATSE presidency.

There was evidence at the time with respect to the $1,000,000 payments that the money collected was to go to "the Boys in Chicago." Bioff and Browne, convicted of the same charges, are now serving 10 and eight years, respectively. Nick Circella, alias Nick Dean, former Chicago night club racketeer, who pleaded guilty to participating in the conspiracy, was sentenced to serve 10 years in a Federal prison. Testimony during the recent trial was that the defendants hired Circella to "keep tabs" on the activities of Browne and Bioff, to make certain that the gang would receive its proper share of whatever money was collected.

Daly, Others in Latin 'SYWA' Promotion

A three-man team of American publicists will spearhead an exploitation drive for "Since You Went Away" in Latin-American capitals, it was jointly announced here yesterday by Neil Agnew, vice-president of Vanguard Films, and Walter Gould, foreign manager of United Artists. The three include Len Daly of U. A.'s home office foreign publicity department, Edward Ugast and Alfred Katz. They will work with local U. A. managers in Central and South America, under supervision of Sam Seidelman, Latin-American supervisor.

Indict Transit Strikers

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 4.—A Federal grand jury today indicted 30 employes of the Philadelphia Transportation Company on charges of violating the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike Act in connection with the six-day transportation tie-up here in August.

Review

"I'm from Arkansas"

(PRC)

Hollywood, Oct. 4

ON a par with most hill-billy pictures in most particulars, although a little above par in point of music and a little below as to story, this E. H. Kleinert-Irving Vershel production is designed strictly for that public which listens to that type of entertainment on the radio and goes for it on the screen.

Principals in the large cast are Slim Summerville, in a role patterned after the hill-billy pictures in *Esquire*, El Brendel, Iris Adrian, Bruce Bennett, Cliff Nazarro, Al St. John and Jimmy Wakely, whose singing is an asset. Direction by Lew Landers concentrates on movement. The script, by Marcy Klauber and Joseph Carole, from a story by Klauber, concerns a pig in Pitchfork, Ark., which gives birth to 18 piglets, an event which becomes a national news sensation and brings show people, legislators and a couple of packing-plant slickers to the town. By the time they are through doing what they do, the town is on the verge of becoming a famous spa and everybody who wanted to marry anybody is on the point of doing so.

Two of the 10 songs wrapped up in the proceedings, played and sung by various combinations of talent, have shown promise of popularity. They are: "If You Can't Go Right, Don't Go Wrong" and "You're the Hit of the Season."

Running time, 68 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Roosevelt Urges Ban On Records Lifted

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—President Roosevelt today urged James C. Petrillo to lift his two-year ban on the making of records by members of his American Federation of Musicians. The President sent a wire to Petrillo declaring that the ban should be lifted "in the interest of orderly government."

It was recalled in Washington that in 1942, when he appeared before a Congressional committee investigating to determine whether the ban was a strike, Petrillo declared he would call it off only if asked by the President. Last month the AFM head defied a War Labor Board order, and the matter was before Stabilization Director Fred Vinson when the President acted.

Roosevelt told Petrillo in his telegram that his refusal to comply with the order "may encourage other instances of non-compliance which will impede the war effort." He admitted, however, that, since the union ban had not created a war emergency, the Government cannot force the musicians to make records.

RCA Hopes for Early End of Long Dispute

Hope that James Petrillo will comply with the President's request to end the AFM's ban on records, and that "the dispute can be quickly settled to the satisfaction of all concerned" was expressed here yesterday by Frank M. Folsom, RCA vice-president in charge of RCA Victor.

First British Studio Workers AreReleased

(Continued from page 1)

that members of the association surrender ten per cent of their studio workers for the reconditioning of London. Producers were understood to be reluctant to hand over their workers, in view of a shortage of studio labor, and felt that production would be considerably handicapped. Workers likewise looked askance at the demand because they felt that they might not get their jobs back when the war ends.

Admits Attempt to 'Control' Situation

(Continued from page 1)

witness. It was viewed by court observers as a definite Schine victory. Fine also was on the stand today, but only briefly. The bulk of the day's testimony was given by Charles E. Dickinson, Jr., of Shepherdstown, W. Va., a Government witness.

Dickinson at one time was booker for the 1,800-seat Palace in Lockport, N. Y., where, he said, Schine operated the 1,500-seat Rialto in 1932-'33, a house converted from a skating rink, and also held the lease on the Hi-Art there, a 1,100-seat house which had been closed for seven years. Schine had been a lessor of the Palace and was succeeded by the Reliance Theatre Corp., formed by Nikitas Dipson as president, and Dickinson, vice-president. Peter Grafiados, identified as Dipson's nephew, succeeded the latter as president, Dickinson said. He testified to difficulties encountered in obtaining product for the Palace from Universal, M-G-M and Paramount, allegedly because of commitments with Schine.

Dickinson said he was told by William F. Rodgers of M-G-M: "A contract with the Palace, in comparison with the Schine chain, would amount to peanuts." Dickinson also testified that an offer to purchase the lease on the Palace had been made by John May of the Schine Circuit, and had been refused. He said the Hi-Art then was reopened by Schine in October, 1933. The Palace finally was sold at auction and was acquired by Schine in October, 1936, Dickinson said.

Conciliation Code Is Adopted by Canada

(Continued from page 1)

pendently with local representation of distributors, circuits and independent exhibitors. The latter was not defined and apparently can continue to be a single or multiple theatre owner or circuit partner. The meeting was attended by independents from both Eastern and Western Canada and by circuits and distributors.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 4

LEON FROMKESS has assigned Pierre Gendron to write the screenplay of "Mother Cabrini," which PRC will produce with Martin Mooney as associate producer . . . M-G-M has added Lucille Ball to the cast of principals for "Without Love," Spencer Tracy-Katharine Hepburn starrer . . . Producer Jack Skirball has added John Carradine, Ed Gargan and Sarah Padden to the cast of "It's in the Bag," the Fred Allen feature he is producing for United Artists . . . Paulette Goddard will star in "Dishonored Lady" for Hunt Stromberg.

•

Columbia has acquired White House approval for the use of President Roosevelt's voice, in imitation, and his dog Falla, in portrayal, in the company's forthcoming "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal." . . . Universal has assigned Charles David to direct "Lady on a Train," Deanna Durbin's next . . . William Rowland has signed Shirley Ross, Barton Hepburn, Elizabeth Risdon, Roger Clark and Peter Garay for "A Song for Miss Julie," which he is to produce for Republic distribution.

•

Indication of continuing production: W. R. Frank, now producing "A Girl, a Boy and a Dog," has engaged Harry Davenport and Jerry Hunter to appear in his next film after that, as yet untitled . . . Universal has commissioned Warren Wilson to develop and produce "On Stage, Everybody," from the radio program of the same name . . . Columbia is to make a musical entitled "Dear Departed," which has to do with a bandleader and his professional associates. Michel Kraike will produce.

•

Republic has signed Edward Everett Horton to play the male lead in "A Daring Holiday," a comedy drama about a conservative judge who plays crook and gets into complications, with Joseph Bercholz producing . . . Gary Cooper has signed William Demarest to ride alongside him in the first picture, an untitled enterprise described as a Western epic, which the actor-producer will turn out for International Pictures.

Warners to Show Two

"The Very Thought of You," Warner production, will be nationally tradeshown on Oct. 30, with general release set for Nov. 11.

Warners' "To Have and Have Not" will have its world premiere next Wed., Oct. 11, at the Hollywood Theatre here, with general release not set before January.

Well, Aren't They?

Monty Salmon, managing director of the Rivoli here, and Syd Gross, publicity manager, are collaborating on the writing of a book to be called: "It's a Wonder Movie Managers Aren't Nuts!" It will deal with managers' experiences on their jobs. Gross will devote a vacation, starting Friday, to work on the tome.

RKO Theatre Union Bargaining Deferred Following Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

which the union presented its demands for a contract.

Rathvon said that RKO had received the demands of the union and that a "detailed discussion of the demands was deferred."

Following the meeting, union officials said that steps have been taken by the union's negotiating committee to ask for immediate intervention of the New York State Board of Mediation.

The Demands

Demands presented to RKO by the Guild which won a SLRB election by a vote of 51-44 last Friday and was certified collective bargaining agent for managers and assistants of the 41 RKO theatres in New York and Westchester, included the following: a general 20 per cent wage increase; establishment of a minimum wage scale of $115 a week for managers and $75 a week for assistant managers; institution of a plan of automatic wage increases for merit and length of service; a 40-hour week; sick leave with pay; vacations of two weeks a year for managers and assistants with five years of service with the company and three-week vacations for those with more than five years of service; severance pay of four weeks after one year and two additional weeks for each additional year of service; protection for men who have gone into the Armed Forces; a maintenance of membership provision also requiring all new managers and assistants to join; and recognition of the Guild as the representative for all managers and assistant managers in the 41 theatres. The Guild is seeking a two-year contract with provisions for reopening the contract at the end of a year for wage discussions.

Contest Eligibility

Before the election was ordered by the SLRB, RKO had contended that managers were supervisory employes and therefore not eligible for union membership. Yesterdays' meeting was held in Rathvon's office with Monroe Goldwater, attorney, representing the company, and Hyman Glickstein representing the Guild.

Griffis Will Leave for Hawaii Tomorrow

(*Continued from page* 1)

Douglas Poteat as deputy assistants, with Poteat doubling as general counsel. Appointment of Arthur L. Mayer, exhibitor and executive of the industry's War Activities Committee, was announced last week.

Goodyear is a member of the board, chairman of the board of Gaylord Container Corp. and Gulf, Mobile and Ohio Railroad. He also a trustee of the Museum of Modern Art, of which he formerly was president.

Poteat, now in England, will leave for the U. S. shortly, en route to Hawaii. He has served as assistant general counsel to the Bureau of Economic Warfare-Federal Economic Administration in Washington, deputy to the Minister of the Economic Warfare Division, rendering special assistance to the American ambassador in London.

Theatre Grosses Still Run Far Ahead of Last Year

(*Continued from page* 1)

came close to maintaining that pace last week with $16,927.

The gain of September averages over last September's was practically progressive throughout the month. The first week ran $1,358 ahead of the corresponding one in 1943; second week, $1,809; third week, $2,374, and fourth week, $2,025.

"Wilson appeared as the leading grosser in 13 of the month's reports, barely nosing out "Going My Way," which, after setting the pace for some time, continued tops on 12 occasions. "Casanova Brown," crashing through to set the pace five times, stood in third position. Strong competition was furnished by "Since You Went Away," "Janie," "The Impatient Years," "Dragon Seed," "In Society," "Heavenly Days," "Bathing Beauty" and "Greenwich Village."

Other leaders at box offices included: "Christmas Holiday," "Gaslight," "The Seventh Cross," "Hail the Conquering Hero," "I Love a Soldier," "Summer Storm," "Henry Aldrich's Little Secret," "And the Angels Sing," "Sensations of 1945" and "Three Men in White."

Composite key first-run box office reports, compared with the same week last year, follow:

1944 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Dec. 31-Jan. 1	135	$2,213,500	$16,396
Jan. 7-8	117	2,417,700	20,664
Jan. 14-15	134	2,040,700	15,229
Jan. 21-22	149	2,311,400	15,513
Jan. 28-29	147	2,365,200	16,090
Feb. 4-5	153	2,512,200	16,419
Feb. 11-12	137	2,220,900	16,211
Feb. 18-19	155	2,459,800	15,870
Feb. 25-26	161	2,760,100	17,144
March 3-4	147	2,397,100	16,307
March 10-11	147	2,463,400	16,758
March 17-18	153	2,661,100	18,761
March 24-25	150	2,487,700	16,585
Mar. 31-Apr. 1	152	3,025,000	13,329
April 7-8	153	2,340,600	15,298
April 14-15	143	2,506,800	17,530
April 21-22	148	2,564,200	17,326
April 28-29	130	2,090,900	16,084
May 5-6	143	2,238,700	15,655
May 12-13	146	2,338,700	16,018
May 19-20	162	2,417,000	14,926
May 26-27	155	2,349,400	15,157
June 2-3	143	2,242,500	15,683
June 9-10	141	1,938,000	13,752
June 16-17	135	1,934,400	14,322
June 23-24	136	2,002,800	14,726
June 30-July 1	126	2,178,300	17,288
July 7-8	145	2,490,900	17,178
July 14-15	144	2,228,500	15,476
July 21-22	148	2,321,400	15,685
July 28-29	135	2,245,400	16,632
Aug. 4-5	141	2,324,500	15,777
Aug. 11-12	148	2,355,200	15,913
Aug. 18-19	153	2,514,100	16,433
Aug. 25-26	141	2,516,800	17,850
Sept. 1-2	127	2,313,600	18,217
Sept. 8-9	144	2,703,600	18,775
Sept. 15-16	158	2,638,200	16,697
Sept. 22-23	146	2,505,900	17,164
Sept. 29-30	156	2,640,700	16,927

1943 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 1-2	151	$2,813,506	$18,632
Jan. 8-9	154	2,424,300	15,742
Jan. 15-16	149	1,830,500	12,285
Jan. 21-22	127	1,648,600	12,981
Jan. 29-30	127	1,789,500	14,091
Feb. 5-6	126	1,743,000	13,040
Feb. 12-13	132	1,919,000	14,588
Feb. 19-20	139	1,885,900	13,568
Feb. 26-27	149	2,005,200	13,458
March 5-6	142	1,933,400	13,615
March 12-13	151	1,944,600	12,878
March 19-20	143	1,968,300	13,764
March 26-27	147	1,938,200	13,185
April 2-3	123	1,785,800	14,519
April 9-10	147	2,029,100	13,803
April 16-17	147	1,868,500	12,711
April 23-24	158	2,006,200	12,634
Apr. 30-May 1	154	2,284,200	14,184
May 7-8	161	2,168,400	13,468
May 14-15	161	2,053,700	18,967
May 21-22	158	2,096,200	13,267
May 28-29	155	2,036,600	13,139
June 4-5	169	2,289,700	13,548
June 11-12	166	1,865,873	11,240
June 18-19	163	1,961,600	12,034
June 25-26	168	2,125,300	12,650
July 2-3	164	2,133,800	13,010
July 9-10	153	2,433,700	15,906
July 16-17	151	2,109,400	13,970
July 23-24	155	2,185,100	14,097
July 30-31	164	2,347,900	14,316
Aug. 6-7	138	2,032,400	14,727
Aug. 13-14	166	2,302,200	13,869
Aug. 20-21	153	2,341,600	15,304
Aug. 27-28	175	2,681,500	15,322
Sept. 3-4	163	2,559,900	15,705
Sept. 10-11	168	2,926,000	17,417
Sept. 17-18	165	2,456,300	14,887
Sept. 24-25	175	2,588,200	14,790
Oct. 1-2	166	2,473,800	14,902

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Previous Chairmen in 6th War Loan Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the Marine Corps' 169th anniversary; the second, ready on Nov. 9 will feature Lt. Tyrone Power, USM; the third, for Nov. 23 release, will feature Admiral Chester W. Nimitz.

In addition, exhibitors will shortly have available special war bond trailers as part of the industry's efforts in the drive. Jennifer Jones is now before cameras in Hollywood for the first trailer, which will be available free to all exhibitors from their local National Screen exchange.

Skouras Lends Dave Bader To 6th War Loan Drive

Dave Bader, 20th Century-Fox publicist, has been loaned by Spyros Skouras to the national committee for the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan Drive.

Bader will be advanceman for the committee's 21 regional meetings which will start on Oct. 20. He will leave New York on October 10, heading for the first meetings, set for California, and then work East, winding up in New York in advance of the meeting scheduled here for Nov. 15.

OWI Confirms Post For Armour Abroad

(*Continued from page* 1)

definite theatre of operations and OWI officials were uncertain as to when Armour would leave for the Continent to take up his new duties. It is understood that Armour's appointment is in line with the OWI's expansion, as more liberated countries are opened to Allied films.

The military situation is expected to determine the theatre in which Armour will be located, said the OWI. Also uncertain at present is whether Armour will be under the aegis of the Allied Armies' Psychological Warfare Division, which is a military activity, or whether he will be working under OWI's auspices. Again, the determinant for which agency Armour will work will be largely a question as to whether PWD controls the area or relinquishes such control to the OWI, whereby it will become a civilian activity, with OWI distributing.

If PWD should relinquish control, it is possible that the U. S. companies may resume private operation of film distribution, with France mentioned as the most likely country in which this transformation is expected to come about.

Divorcement Won't Help Independents, Kuykendall Asserts

(*Continued from page* 1)

that producer-distributor interests exercise too much dominance over War Activities Committee affairs and that the same interests have too much to say about representing the whole industry. He neither condemned nor endorsed postwar continuance of the WAC, either as a high-pressure agency or as a public relations agency, saying this should be left to regional organizations.

The MPTOA president stressed the gravity of the tax outlook for exhibition and urged his listeners to organize their opposition immediately. He predicted a big increase in competition after the war and said that new competition in small towns would have certain film buying advantages over established theatres, whether independent or affiliated. He expressed the belief that there never can be a standard priced product for all exhibitors. Kuykendall welcomed evidences of branch managers being granted greater authority within their territories but urged exhibitors to make the right deals first instead of seeking adjustments, due to negligence, later.

Silent on WAC

The convention itself decided to take no action concerning an expression on continuance of the WAC after the war, being of the view that the time is not ripe for such a move.

All KMTA directors were reelected with the exception of George Harttmann, now residing in Hollywood, who was replaced by Earl Jameston, partner with Harttmann and Sam Abend in Friendly Theatres. Other directors are: H. J. Griffith, J. E. Pennington, R. R. Beichele, C. E. Cook, Stanley Schwartz and C. A. Schultz, together with the reelected officers: Tom Edwards, president; Homer Strowing, vice-president; George S. Baker, secretary, and Fred Meyn, treasurer. Beichele was again designated public relations officer, his field including legislative matters.

1st Long 16mm Under Relaxed Restrictions

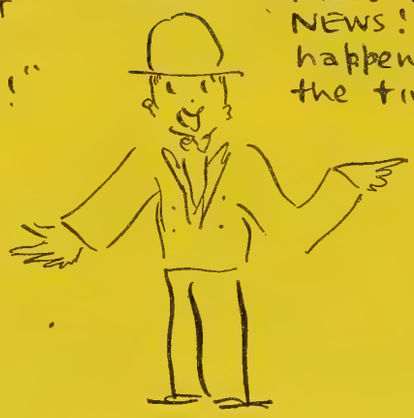
HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 4.—Major 16mm Productions, Inc., is the first to cross the finish line with a feature-length 16mm entertainment picture produced for the school and church field under the Government's recently relaxed provisions.

"Sundown Riders," made in Kodachrome, was written, directed and acted by Hollywood professionals. It runs 55 minutes, the story patterning standard Westerns.

A major spokesman told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that "although the film is aimed at the existing 16mm market, it is unrestricted and could be obtained by any exhibitor."

Para. Club Aids Services

The Paramount Pep Club of home office employes is emphasizing its Fall season aiding its own 450 home office and exchange employes in the services. Christmas boxes are being packed, and, Paramount girls are volunteering for a "duration" blood donor plan instituted for the American Red Cross.



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... of shoes,
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Rough, Tough, Two-gun and Terrific!

M-G-M gives you Beery at his riotous best as a con-man and gun-man in the rousing, roistering boom-days of the West! It tops "Salute to the Marines"!

WALLACE BEERY
BARBARY COAST GENT
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Directed by ROY DEL RUTH
Produced by ORVILLE O. DULL

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THEY MET AND CLINCHED IN RENO... great place for it, too!

FIRST NEW YORK SHOWING OF M-G-M's BIG NEW HIT!

M-G-M's MAISIE GOES TO RENO

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THE ONE AND ONLY JIMMIE LUNCEFORD AND HIS ORCHESTRA
"The School of Jazznochracy"
FOUR STEP BROTHERS Sepian Dancing Stars of Stage and Screen
TINA DIXON · LEON COLLINS
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EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION
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"They're in the Army Now"

One night of love... tender, warm reckless... bittersweet with parting but unforgettable forever!

SPENCER TRACY in M-G-M's The SEVENTH CROSS
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HUME CRONYN · JESSICA TANDY · AGNES MOOREHEAD
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Screen Play by Helen Deutsch · Based Upon the Novel by Anna Seghers · Directed by FRED ZINNEMANN · Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN · A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

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Doors Open 10 A.M.
CAPITOL
Broadway at 51st Street

$21,000 Gross For 'Casanova' Is Over Double

CHICAGO, Oct. 4.—Top box-office grosser of the week is "Casanova Brown," at the Woods, hitting $21,000 for the first stanza of an extended run. The figure is more than double the house average. "Dragon Seed" continues strong at the State Lake, gathering a fine $34,000 in its second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 5:

"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,400).

"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c). Stage: Perry Como and Revue. Gross: $45,000. (Average: $51,500).

"The Last Ride" (WB)
DOWNTOWN—(1,600) (44c-55c-85c-95c). Stage: Duke Ellington and band. Gross: $26,000.

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Secret Command" (Col.)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c), 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,100).

"They Made Me a Criminal" (WB reissue)
"Tiger Shark" (WB reissue)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,100).

"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c). Stage: Peter Lorre and Revue. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $24,000).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.) 6 days, 2nd week
"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.) 1 day
PALACE—(2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,000).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox) 5 days, 3rd week
"Janie" (WB) 2 days
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (35c-65c-95c). Gross: $34,000. (Average: $29,000).

"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000).

"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $10,000).

Boston Tribunal in Clearance Award

A clearance complaint filed against the five consenting companies by National Theatre Co., operator of the National Theatre, Boston, has been dismissed with reference to Paramount, Loew's and Warner Bros., by George E. Gordon, arbitrator in the Boston tribunal, the American Arbitration Association has reported here.

At the same time, Gordon ruled that the clearance of the Rivoli Theatre, Roxbury, over the National with reference to RKO and 20th Century-Fox product shall be 30 days. Existing clearance accorded the Rivoli by Warners is 21 days; by Loew's, 30 days. On 20th-Fox product, the Rivoli previously held clearance of 60 days over the National.

New Republic Unit Starts in Mexico

Republic's new subsidiary, Republic Pictures de Mexico, Inc., will begin operations in Mexico City next Monday.

As recently announced, Carl Ponedel, formerly manager of the company's branch in Puerto Rico, will manage the Mexican office.

WPB No Barrier to Equipment Repairs

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 4.—Although considerable buying of technological equipment is expected to follow the eventual relaxation of WPB controls, there is no dammed up backlog of orders based on crying needs of studios, according to W. F. Kelley, manager of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Broadly speaking, he said, WPB regulations have been no barrier to keeping needed equipment in good working order throughout the war to date, with necessary replacements obtainable when warranted.

On the other hand, routine turnover in mechanisms has been slowed somewhat. The probable outcome is some companies will be disposed to replace them with new and possibly improved models when these become available, although the buying will be selective and motivated rather by the normal wish to modernize than by pressure of necessity. Kelley said it was not practical to estimate in advance the amount of this kind of buying that will be done.

$22,000 for 'SYWA', $20,000 for 'Lace'

BALTIMORE, Oct. 4.—Business is better here this week. New openings were strong, and weekends at capacity for the newcomers. In the lead are "Since You Went Away" $22,000 at the Century and "Arsenic and Old Lace" $20,000 at the Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 5:

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c) and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,000).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
NEW — (1,581) (76c-$1.70) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average at regular prices: $9,000).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000).

"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Coley Worth, Olive White, Jerry Lewis, Robert Sisters & White, Carleton Emmy and his Pets. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,500).

"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,000).

Australia Thanks WAC

The industry was accorded praise by the Australian Red Cross this week through Capt. Alfred Brown, secretary general of the organization, who presented his country's thanks for the industry's help in raising funds for the Australian Red Cross, to Francis S. Harmon, executive vice chairman of the War Activities Committee. At WAC headquarters when Capt. Brown visited were Jack Haney of 20th Century-Fox; Albert Deane of the WAC foreign division, and Dorothy Stewart, American representative for J. C. Williamson Theatres in Australia.

WAC Is Honored

The theatres' division of the War Activities Committee of Alabama has been awarded the Office of Civilian Defense service award for mobilizing the civilian population for the war effort. Gov. Chauncey M. Sparks, chairman of the Alabama state defense council, and Haygood Paterson made the award.

20th Set Through Dec. for 1st Time

For the first time in several years the 20th Century-Fox sales force is enabled at this time to negotiate playing time through the holidays and into January. Set for October are: "Big Noise", "In the Meantime, Darling" and "Irish Eyes Are Smiling"; for November: "Laura", "Something for the Boys" and "The Way Ahead"; for December: "Keys to the Kingdom", "Winged Victory" and "San Demetrio—London"; for January: "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" and "Thunderhead—Son of Flicka."

"Wilson" and "The Song of Bernadette" are available as specials.

'Pine' Reissue Tops With 'My Rhythm'

OMAHA, Oct. 4.—"The Trail of the Lonesome Pine" and "Pardon My Rhythm," the former the first reissue ever tried by the Orpheum Theatre, easily swept box office laurels here with an $11,300 gross.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 4-5:

"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $6,500).

"Janie" (WB)
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Paramount for "Janie." Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,400).

"Trail of the Lonesome Pine" (Para.)
"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $9,800).

"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $11,700).

Richey, Crooker to 'Romance' Premiere

Two more M-G-M home office executives will attend the preview of "An American Romance" in Cincinnati on Oct. 12. Herbert Crooker, publicity manager, will leave Oct. 10 with Howard Dietz, Si Seadler, William R. Ferguson, E. C. Carrier and William Danziger, while H. M. Richey, exhibitor relations director, will leave over the weekend for Detroit, where he will attend an exhibitor meeting before going to Cincinnati.

The premiere will be held at the Albee Theatre, in cooperation with station WLW. A premiere banquet will be held at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel.

Ned Depinet Lauds Dembow of NSS

Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO, in a personal letter to all RKO accounts, has called their attention to the current National Screen Service "George Dembow Tribute" drive, asking for cooperation to insure success of the drive for National's sales manager, and paying tribute to him.

Depinet asked RKO's accounts to help the drive by ordering additional advertising matter from NSS which, "in these lush times will produce proportionately more business." Dembow is not in New York, but Herman Robbins, president of NSS, declared the tribute unheard of in the industry.

Films 1st to Resume As Allied War Aid

The motion picture industry was the only American industry permitted to resume private operation in French North Africa because of its "value to the war effort," it was learned from the New York Office of War Information overseas film bureau. Priority was given to the film industry, it was said, because the people need entertainment and, also by selecting the right type of film it is hoped to counteract the distorted view of America that those people got from the Nazis.

The OWI overseas film bureau is keeping complete records detailing the operation of all OWI and its psychological warfare branches in exhibiting films in the liberated areas. Playing time, rentals, and expenses incurred in operation are but some of the subjects contained in periodic reports given to the film companies here, it is understood.

Lissim's Parents Lost in France

Vladimir Lissim, division manager in RKO's foreign distribution department, has received word that his father and mother died 'somewhere in France' during the last days of the German occupation. No details accompanied the notification from the Red Cross. Lissim had made repeated efforts to locate his parents but without result. Prior to the invasion, he was RKO's assistant European manager with headquarters in Paris. Pursued by the Gestapo, he eluded them as Paris fell and made his way to New York via Portugal, joining the home office staff upon arriving here.

Services Today for Henry MacRae

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 4.—Funeral services for Henry MacRae, Universal producer, who died Monday, will be held at the Church of the Recessional, Forrest Lawn, Glendale, tomorrow afternoon at 2 P.M.

Among the 50 honorary pallbearers will be: Ben Pivar, David Garber, Ford Beebe, Jack Gross, Carl Laemmle, Jr., John Mack Brown, Jerry Ascher, Lewis Collins, Norman Lacey, William Desmond, Maurice Pivar, Frank Lloyd, Robert Z. Leonard, John Ford, Frank Borzage, Alfred E. Green, Allan Dwan, King Vidor, William Seiter, Eddie Sedgwick, Walter Lantz and B. Reeves Eason.

Joel, Oldest Owner In South, Dies

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Oct. 4.—L. D. Joel, reputedly the oldest exhibitor in the South, and owner and manager of the Casino Theatre here, died suddenly at his home yesterday. He had been operating theatres in the South for 30 years.

Harry Beresford Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 4.—Harry Beresford, 77, who played major roles in "The Sign of the Cross," "The Fleet's In" and other films, died today of a heart attack at his home in the Toluca Lake district. Surviving are his wife, the former Edith Wyle, and a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Brewer.

$14,300 for Fifth Week of 'Way'

TORONTO, Oct. 4.—"Dragon Seed" points to a $14,700 gross at Loew's, "Going My Way" is heading for $14,300 in its fifth week at Shea's and "Step Lively" at the Imperial is promising $13,800.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 5:

"Between Two Worlds" (WB)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $12,800).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $14,700. (Average: $11,200).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Between Two Worlds" (WB)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,800).

'SYWA' Hits Record On $26,000 Take

PROVIDENCE, Oct. 4.—Loew's State, set a house record of $26,000 with the first week of "Since You Went Away." Elsewhere business was not too brisk.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 5:

"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
RKO - ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $12,800).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
STRAND — (2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $10,500).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $17,700).
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,100).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Majestic. Gross: $2,900. (Average: $4,000).
"My Friend Flicka" (20th-Fox)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. On stage: Tanit Ikao, Norma Kreiger, Bob Hopkins, Wilfred Dubois, Earl and Josephine Leach, Brian O'Mara. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500).
"Swing in the Saddle" (Col.)
METROPOLITAN — (3,050) (44c-60c) 3 days. On stage: Shep Fields and Orchestra, Three Edwards, Criss Cross. Gross: $7,700. (Average: $6,900).

'SYWA's' $24,000 Tops in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Oct. 4. — "Since You Went Away" looked like top business here, heading for $24,000 at the Great Lakes.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 7:

"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,400).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $16,200).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $9,700).
"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
"Night of Adventure" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,200).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days ("Christmas Holiday," 2nd week.) Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,000).

Short Subject Reviews

"Inside France"
(United Artists—World-in-Action)

From Canada's National Film Board comes another of the World-in-Action series. Although not as engrossing as previous subjects, because of a diffused impression of the French nation, "Inside France," nevertheless, shows the France that represented culture, gracious living and qualities which symbolized culture.

The film shows how France was divided, how its conservative generals distrusted the masses; how the cleavage went deep into the heart of the nation, until the element that nominally governed France threw in its lot with the Germans, and thus was born the 'Vichy-set' with doddering Marshal Petain as its spokesman. But indomitable Frenchmen rallied behind General de Gaulle and fought through to liberation. Stuart Legg edited and Lorne Greene commented. Running time, 19 minutes.

"Proudly We Serve"
(Warners)

The plea for enlistements in the Women's Reserve of the Marine Corps, previously unexploited by films, makes a dramatic entrance into the series of service shorts produced by Warners in "Proudly We Serve." Unfolded in a manner that will appeal especially to the women for which it is intended, the film plays upon the emotions of its potential female audiences. It is an admirable endeavor from every vantage point. The compact plot relates the story of a Marine in the South Pacific and the Woman Marine who trained him for his job in air gunnery. He tells the story of his training at the hands of the lady Marine to his foxhole buddie. The subject maintains a high degree of interest throughout. A fitting climax to the story is the fact that the Marine married the lady Marine. Andrea King and Warren Douglas are featured. Crane Wilbur wrote and directed. Running time, 20 minutes.

"That Men May Live"
(RKO-Pathe)

Here is the oft-told and still inspiring story of what the American Red Cross is doing for the war effort at home and abroad. In addition to showing blood banks, dormitories, canteens and other institutional trade marks of the organization, the audience is treated to what is called the first camera record of a wounded soldier, from the time he is removed from the battle line, through the treatment he receives in the improvised field hospital, his trip to an Army medical center in England, and the final journey—a flight home to the U. S. The latest "This Is America" release has universal appeal. The subject is one which is close to the hearts of Americans everywhere—the welfare of our boys. Frederic Ullman and Pathe have again come up with a subject to bolster the hopes of the people at home, at the same time giving credit to the gallant men and women of the Red Cross. Larry O'Reilly directed and photographed. Dwight Weist handled the narration from the script by Ardis Smith. Running time 19 minutes.

"Goldilocks and the Jivin' Bears"
(Warners)

The three bears are a trio of 'red-hot jivesters, strictly on the beam' and Red Riding Hood is a jitterbug. The bears arrive at grandmother's with Goldilocks and the wolf is led through a wild jitter routine which literally leaves him limp. Meanwhile grandmother escapes from the cupboard where the wolf has put her and she puts the finishing touches on the wolf with a groovy rendition of the Lindy Hop. Fairy tales haven't lost their appeal. This is a mirthful cartoon. Running time, 7 minutes.

Kalmenson, Others To Clark Meeting

Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, will head a group of Warner executives who will leave tonight for Toronto to hold a meeting for the formal installation of Ralph H. Clark as new general manager for Canada, succeeding Wolfe Cohen, who assumes an executive post in the foreign department with headquarters at the home office.

In addition to Kalmenson, the group attending the meeting will include Mort Blumenstock, in charge of advertising and publicity, Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager, and Cohen and Clark.

All except Clark will return to New York at the end of the week.

Dezel Opens 'Classics' Office in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Oct. 4.—Albert Dezel, franchise holder for Film Classics in Detroit and Cleveland, has opened an office for that company here, to be known as Film Classics of Cincinnati.

Louis Van Baalen, former office manager for RKO, has been named manager, and Mae Schoole has been appointed head booker and assistant manager.

Stern Calls Third M-G-M Field Meet

M-G-M's third and final meeting of office managers and field auditors will be held Oct. 21-23 at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati.

Attending the three-day meeting from the home office will be: Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer of Loew's; Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations; William Brenner, in charge of branch maintenance; Arthur Sterling, assistant to Cummings; Rose Klein, assistant to Sterling; A. J. Nelson, head of statistics; Leonard Hirsch, assistant to E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Eastern sales manager; Paul Richrath, assistant to John J. Maloney, Central sales manager; and Mike Simons, editor of the *Distributor*, company publication.

Shapiro to Distribute

"We Accuse," documentary dealing with the Kharkov trials and German atrocities in conquered countries, will soon be shown to American film audiences, it has been announced here by Irving Shapiro, independent producer and former Film Classics general manager. The film is basically the same one which has been playing in Britain for the past 16 weeks as "Justice Is Coming."

'Wild' Is 150% Over Average in Denver

DENVER, Oct. 4. — "Youth Runs Wild", on a dual at the Rialto, ran up a 'wild' box office figure of $17,500, 150 per cent above average. Most moveovers were doing a fair business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2-4:

"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $3,600).
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
"Underground Guerrillas" (Col.-Brit.)
BROADWAY — (1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $5,850. (Average: $3,900).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,000).
"Gypsy Wildcat" (U.)
"The Pearl of Death" (U.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $18,750. (Average: $15,000).
"Wilson" (20th Fox)
ESQUIRE—(740) (76-$1.12) 7 days on a return engagement. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,500).
"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Swing in the Saddle" (Col.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $11,525. (Average: $9,300).
"Youth Runs Wild" (Col.)
"Girls Under 21" (Col.)
RIALTO — (900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $5,000)

'SYWA' and 'Soldier' Are Week's Best

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 4.—"Since You Went Away" brought another great week to the Midland with a $26,000 gross. The Newman, with "I Love a Soldier," also in a second week, did well with $13,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3-6:

"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $14,000).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
"7 Days Ashore" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
"Call of the Jungle" (Mono.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,600).

'Moonlight' Grosses Very Big $18,000

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 4.—"Moonlight and Cactus" and a stage show at the Circle, expecting $18,000, will top box office receipts here this week. Loew's, with "Seventh Cross" and "Stars on Parade", will do $14,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3-5:

'Moonlight and Cactus" (U.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
INDIANA—(3,200) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Jimmy Steps Out"
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Stage show. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $5,000).
"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
"Stars on Parade" (Col.)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
"Mademoiselle Fifi" (RKO)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $4,900).

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Sept. 9	COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—55 mins. (6201) (1944-'45) EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage C—74 mins. (5025) ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris D—61 mins. (5033)	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)	(First Block) (1944-'45) RAINBOW ISLAND (color) Eddie Bracken Dorothy Lamour C—96 mins. (4401)	SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian M—76 mins. (509) (1944-45)				SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Shirley Temple Claudette Colbert Jennifer Jones Monty Wooley P—171 mins.		
Sept. 16			LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357) BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)	TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton D—88 mins. (4402)		THAT'S MY BABY Richard Arlen Ellen Drew D—68 mins. (328)				MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—60 mins. (9022) (1944-'45)	
Sept. 23	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M—81 mins.	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (500) (1944-'45)	SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan 67 mins. D—(1944-'45)	NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather James Brown C—76 mins. (4403)	GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—56 mins. (1944-'45)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345) STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45) ATLANTIC CITY Constance Moore Brad Taylor M—87 mins. (327)	(Seventh Block) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431) BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434) MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432) MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	(Second Block, 1944-'45) (Sept. Releases) SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503) GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505) DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)		THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—91 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 30	STRANGE AFFAIR Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D—78 mins. (5026)	(Ninth Block) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins. (501)	TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele O—54 mins. (368)	OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Diana Lynn Gail Russell C—81 mins. (4404)						PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—69 mins. (9019) (1944-'45)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant C—118 mins. (403) (1944-'45)
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M—68 mins. (1944-'45)	BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502)		DARK MOUNTAIN Ellen Drew Robert Lowery D—56 mins. (4405)		CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake O—56 mins. (3314)				SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—83 mins. (1944-'45)	
Oct. 14	SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch George Zucco D—(1944-'45) 67 mins. (6021)	MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—(504) WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins. (503)	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. (1944-'45) WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger 67 mins. D—(1944-'45)	(Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins.		CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson O—56 mins. (452) (1944-'45) MY BUDDY Donald Barry D—69 mins. (403)				THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (9030) (1944-'45)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—(404) (1944-'45)
Oct. 21	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D—61 mins. (1944-'45)	MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—118 mins. (505)		(Second Block) FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Color) Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova D—114 mins.	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—74 mins (41PS)	STORM OVER LISBON D—86 mins. (323) GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES (re-issue) Gene Autry O—65 mins. (3307)	(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (1944-'45)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins.		BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Kirby Grant Freddy Slack orch. M—70 mins.	
Oct. 28	THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix D—(1944-'45)	KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—103 mins. (506)	ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Marjorie Rambeau D—(1944-'45) LAW OF THE VALLEY Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O	MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds D	WILD HORSE PHANTOM Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—(1944-'45) I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville C—68 mins. (1944-'45)		(First Block) (1944-'45) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505)			THE CLIMAX (Color) Susanna Foster Boris Karloff Turhan Bey D—86 mins.	THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid D—101 mins. (405)
Nov. 4	SGT. MIKE Larry Parks D CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS Charles Starrett O—56 mins.	MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (507)		THE MAN IN HALF-MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker D	I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell D—(1944-'45)	END OF THE ROAD Edward Norris June Storey D—(402) 51 mins.	NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501) GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins. (504)	(Third Block) (1944-'45) (Oct. Release) THE BIG NOISE Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy C—74 mins. (506)		BOWERY TO BROADWAY Donald O'Connor Maria Montez Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey M—96 mins. (502)	
Nov. 11	THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon D	NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Reissue) Jeannette Mac Donald Nelson Eddy M—80 mins. (508)		AND NOW TOMORROW Loretta Young Alan Ladd D	BLUEBEARD John Carradine Jean Parker Nils Asther D—(1944-'45)		TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines O—87 mins. (503)	IN THE MEAN-TIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Frank Latimore D—72 mins. (507)		DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker Paul Kelly D	THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Faye Emerson D—(406)
Nov. 18		(Special) AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards D—51 mins. (510)	ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—(1944-'45)	ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker C	THE GREAT MIKE Robert Henry Stuart Erwin D—73 mins.		THE MASTER RACE Carl Esmond Osa Massen Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey D—96 mins. (502)	IRISH EYES ARE SMILING Monte Wooley Dick Haymes June Haver M—90 mins. (508)		RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford Delta Rhythm Boys D—63 mins.	

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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Foreign Film Personnel Seen Plentiful

Companies Manage to Contact Former Men

With resumption of private operation of film distribution believed to be near in France after a long period of control by the Allied Psychological Warfare Branch, most distributors are reported to be in good shape insofar as their foreign manpower requirements are concerned, it was learned here yesterday.

Many foreign managers and other personnel in France and Italy have contacted home office foreign department heads by devious methods, as commercial communication between the U. S. and the Continent has not been resumed as yet. Those distributors who maintain newsreel subsidiaries have been able to secure in-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Raw Film Shortage Explained by U.S.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Total production of still and motion picture film in the second quarter of this year amounted to 158,639,000 square feet, it was reported today by the Census Bureau. The second quarter production was nearly 16,400,000 square feet greater than the 142,282,000 square feet manufactured in the preceding quarter and slightly less than that above the 142,668,000 square feet reported for the second quarter of 1943.

The bureau's report showed how the shortage of raw stock which alarmed the War Production Board and the industry last quarter arose, disclosing that shipments in the first quarter were 3,000,000 square feet and in the second quarter 1,366,000 square feet greater than production. The report stated that 61 per cent of the second quarter output went to commercial users as against 69 per cent in the first quarter and 70 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1943.

Appeal Court Hears U. S. Kaufman Pleas

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals in New York yesterday reserved decision after two days of argument on the appeals by six Chicago gangsters and Louis Kaufman, former business agent of Local 244, Motion Picture Operators Union, of

(*Continued on page 9*)

Silverstone Says South America to Exceed Continent

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—Murray Silverstone, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, said here today that he will invite representatives of all companies to meet with him upon his return to New York to hear a report on his recent South American tour after first submitting a report to Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, and Joseph M. Schenck, executive production head.

Silverstone said the Latin-American market looms more promising than the European in the postwar period, adding: "I feel that the matter should be put before the entire industry."

Silverstone said that the Office of War Information has asked the industry to appoint its own representatives

(*Continued on page 9*)

Warner Cites Films' Educational Value

"Motion pictures have just begun to show the tremendous good they can do in the education of the peoples of the world and the development of international goodwill," Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., says in a message to the President and Government of Cuba, who recently bestowed the country's highest honor, the Order of Carlos Manuel De Cespedes, on the three Warner Bros.

The message is being taken to Cuba personally by Peter Colli, gen-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Dec. 7 Designated 'Free Movie Day'

Pearl Harbor Day, Thursday, Dec. 7, has been designated national "Free Movie Day" in the Sixth War Loan Drive, Harry Brandt, national chairman for the industry in the drive, announced here yesterday.

Special accessories, such as co-operative ads, posters and one sheets are now being prepared and will be available for showmen for their local campaigns in aiding the motion picture industry top its quota in this $14,000,000,000 drive, from Nov. 20 to Dec. 16, it was announced.

Schine Testifies at Anti-Trust Trial

BUFFALO, Oct. 5.—Highlight of proceedings in the Schine Circuit anti-trust trial in Federal District court here today was the appearance on the witness stand of J. Myer Schine, one of the defendants, and John A. May, comptroller of Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., Gloversville.

Both Schine and May were called by Robert L. Wright of the Justice Department in a futile attempt to establish what connection if any, Howard Carroll had with the Schine organization in October, 1933.

Earlier, Charles E. Dickinson, Jr., formerly of Lockport, told of a conversation he had with Carroll in connection with operation of the Palace Theatre, Lockport, which was ac-

(*Continued on page 9*)

A.T.&T. to Explain Video Links at SMPE Meeting

The existing and contemplated facilities of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. for the transmission of television programs to theatres will be explained to the members of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at their New York meeting at the Hotel Pennsylvania on Oct. 16 by H. S. Osborne, A.T.&T. chief engineer, in a report he has prepared for the meeting on television transmission.

Existing facilities include the use of specially adapted telephone links within a city for the transmission of television programs from one focal point to a group of theatres within the city. Inter-city links would be provided by the A.T.&T.'s contemplated construction of over 6,000 miles of coaxial cable linking the principal cities of the United States by 1950. Inter-city links might also be provided by the contemplated construction of radio relay links, the first of which is expected to be set between New York

(*Continued on page 9*)

Reviewed Today

Review of "The Mark of the Whistler," Columbia, will be found on page 3.

MGM Studio Decorators Out on Strike

Deadlock Threatens All Hollywood Production

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—In protest against the refusal of the producers last night to recognize the Studio Set Decorators union, decorators on the M-G-M set failed to report for work this morning, and painters and machinists allied with them in the Conference of Studio Unions walked out at noon.

Although production was not stopped by the walkouts, spread of the same procedure to other studios and to other unions looms as a potential threat to continued studio operation.

The producers are still in special session tonight discussing the situa-

(*Continued on page 11*)

Dies Group Quizzes Nelson Poynter

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Nelson Poynter, formerly Hollywood deputy of the OWI, has been quizzed by the Dies Committee in connection with a political pamphlet issued by "Press Research, Inc.," which he now heads.

Poynter asserts that "Press Research Inc.," is a research organization serving newspapers and magazines. He denied that his agency is financed by the Hillman Political Action Committee but admitted membership in that movement. His managing editor, David Loth, in response to a question said he did not know how his name came to be listed on the New York election books in 1936 as a Communist.

Poynter while in Hollywood created an impression in many quarters that he was seeking to influence the content of motion pictures in ways that bore no relation to the war effort.

Illinois Allied to Pool Buying of Equipment

CHICAGO, Oct. 5.—Extension of their buying pool, which now covers films only, to include also equipment and accessories was planned here today by the Allied Theatre Owners of Illinois, who viewed the step as a means of achieving savings, which they believe will be paramount in the

(*Continued on page 9*)

Extend Rains' Visa To Finish 'Caesar'

LONDON, Oct. 5.—J. Arthur Rank, financial backer of Gabriel Pascal's "Caesar and Cleopatra," has avoided a threatened suspension of shooting on that film by obtaining permission from the government for Claude Rains, the star, to remain in England beyond the Oct. 1 date originally set for his departure. The prestige of the picture and the difficulties the production faced during the robot bombings this summer are said to have been factors influencing the official decision.

Warners, to whom Rains is under contract, had previously agreed to allow him to stay here long enough to finish his role, but Pascal is said to face a considerable monetary penalty for keeping him past the Oct. 1 deadline.

Incidentally, workers at the Denham studios are high in praise of the manner in which the American actor stood up under the bombings and other unexpected difficulties that arose. His release is now expected in about six weeks.

MGM Branch Heads Leave and Arrive

Two M-G-M branch managers and one district manager will leave here today after a week at the home office visiting departmental heads and sales personnel. The branch managers are D. C. Kennedy, Des Moines, and H. A Friedel, Denver, while the district manager is Sam A. Shirley. On Monday, John P. Byrne, Detroit district manager; J. F. Willingham, St. Louis manager, and C. J. Briant, New Orleans head, will arrive for a similar visit.

On Oct. 16, Maurice Goldstein, manager of the New Haven exchange, and Benn Rosenwald, Charlotte manager, are due. A week later, Frank J. Downey, Detroit branch manager, and Harry J. Shumow, Milwaukee manager, will arrive. Last in the October visits will be Saal Gottlieb, Pittsburg manager, and J. G. Kemptgen, Omaha head, who will arrive Oct. 30.

Hal Hall to Publicize Western Film Award

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—The Hal Hall publicity office, which has publicized the awards of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences of the past 13 years, has been engaged to perform the same service for the newly organized Western Motion Picture Awards Association, which will hold its first prize ceremony in the form of a rodeo in Hollywood Bowl Nov. 5. Hall's assignment has been approved by the Association of Motion Picture Producers.

Party for Fifi D'Orsay

PRC will be host at a cocktail party at the home office today for Fifi D'Orsay, who arrived here yesterday after recently completing work in "Dixie Jamboree" for the company.

Personal Mention

PAT SCOLLARD, Paramount exchange operations head, left New York for Durham, N. C., last night to visit his son who is in the Navy V-12 training school there. He will return next Tuesday.

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SALLIE SHEPHERD, wife of LT. SONNY SHEPHERD, former Wometco Circuit manager in Miami, is the mother of a girl, Sarah Jean, born Wednesday in the Naval Hospital, Key West.

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PAULA SELIGMAN has concluded her assignment with Republic Pictures as Eastern story idea woman, and will remain in the East to complete a musical screen story.

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LEO J. MCCARTHY, PRC general sales manager, will leave Hollywood Sunday for San Francisco, Denver, Kansas City and St. Louis, arriving in New York Oct. 22.

•

JAMES MURPHY, JR., assistant executive director of the motion picture arbitration system, reports briefly to his office despite a broken ankle.

•

ARTHUR L. PRATCHETT, Paramount manager for Central America, arrived here yesterday for conferences with home office executives.

•

HILDA LESSER, secretary to E. M. SAUNDERS, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, celebrates a birthday on Monday.

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ALFRED ZINNEMAN, M-G-M director, is in Mexico City from Hollywood.

EDWIN W. AARON, circuit sales head for M-G-M, will return from a seven-week trip to the Coast today.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, BERT SANFORD and H. S. MORRIS, president, New York District manager, purchasing agent and merchandising manager of Altec Service Corporation, respectively, will arrive in Chicago today to attend the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association convention there.

•

ROY HAINES, Western and Southern division sales manager for Warner Bros., will leave over the weekend for Milwaukee, Kansas City and other Midwestern exchanges.

•

CAPTAIN WALTER LLOYD, USA, former manager of the M&P Allyn Theatre, Hartford, Conn., is back home for a 21-day furlough after 18 months in North Africa.

•

MRS. BEATRICE (WEISS) SCHWARTZ, secretary to STANLEY SHUFORD, Paramount advertising manager, will leave the company today to take up domestic duties.

•

DAVID COPLAN, United Artists acting British managing director, is expected here from Hollywood early next week before proceeding to London.

•

CHARLES REPASS, manager of the Crown, Hartford, Conn., is at Saratoga, N. Y., for a week with his family.

Treasury Approval Holds Up SPG Pay

Payment of retroactive wage increases to some 280 members of the Screen Publicists Guild of New York by the film companies, which was supposed to have been made today, has been delayed because the companies are seeking official approval of the Treasury Department in cases where publicists are earning over $100 a week in addition to War Labor Board approval which has already been secured.

The retroactive increases go back to May, 1943, in the case of most of the publicists, providing an amount estimated to be about $130,000 for the year and one-half period.

Screen Goldwyn Film

Trade screenings of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Princess and the Pirate" will be held by RKO Radio on Tuesday, Oct. 10. The New York trade showing will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Normandie Theatre.

Laufer Quits UA

Phil Laufer, United Artists local newspaper contact, has resigned, effective Oct. 13, the company reported yesterday.

6th Loan Group In Atlantic City Meet

Harry Brandt, national chairman for the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan Drive, accompanied by William F. Crockett, Max Youngstein, Ted Lloyd, Herman Schleier and Herb Berg, will leave tomorrow for Atlantic City to confer with Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Ted Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division, and other executives of the War Finance Committee.

Lloyd, director of radio for 20th Century-Fox, has been loaned by Spyros Skouras, president of the company, to the national committee for the industry's efforts in the drive. He will supervise all radio tie-ups and handle both local and coast-to-coast network programs.

Hellman Talks with RKO on Joint Deal

Marcel Hellman, managing director and producer of Excelsior Films, Ltd., London, now visiting here, has opened negotiations with RKO on a joint production deal under which RKO would make films for the world market in England.

Hellman is also looking over American plays for possible London presentation.

UA Adopting New Publicity Setup

United Artists will institute a new system of publicity supervision whereby the studio unit publicity director will continue to handle publicity on a film even when shooting is over instead of relinquishing the job to the home office staff, Louis Pollock, publicity and advertising director for UA, announced here yesterday.

The unit man will go to New York to handle the pre-opening drive and the first key-city engagements. A tightening up of co-ordination of studio and home office publicity functions is seen resulting.

The company will recruit men of high calibre to fill these new key posts, the announcement said, and John Harkins and Walter Compton of UA's West Coast publicity department will cooperate.

Meet on Exchange Workers' Filings

Film company exchange operations heads and representatives of the IATSE will meet here Tuesday in an attempt to complete preparation of applications which are being submitted to the regional War Labor Boards for approval of job classifications and wage increases for office workers in the New York and Philadelphia exchanges. Applications for 28 other exchange cities have already been submitted to the regional boards in those areas and approval has beeen secured in Albany and Buffalo.

The IATSE and the company representatives also will set additional applications for exchange service workers' IATSE locals. The exchange service workers' local in Atlanta is the latest to indicate an intention to file for a 10 per cent wage increase, bringing to 19 the number of locals to take such action.

Mary Pickford Gets 'Venus' Film Rights

Mary Pickford yesterday closed negotiations for purchase of the film rights to "One Touch of Venus," which will be released through United Artists.

Gradwell L. Sears, vice president, in charge of U. A. distribution, revealed that the ultimate return for the screen rights may be in the neighborhood of $750,000. Miss Pickford's tentative plans call for a budget of $2,500,000. The film will be in Technicolor. Miss Pickford left for Hollywood last night.

New Production Unit Starts 'Miss Julie'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—With William Rowland as president and Carley Harriman as executive producer, the recently formed Pre-Em Pictures, Inc., has begun production of "A Song for Miss Julie" in Hollywood. The film will be distributed by Republic.

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Wage Boosts for WB Help in Services

Warner Bros. home office "white collar" workers who have gone into the Armed Force will benefit substantially by increased wages when they return to their old jobs, according to provisions agreed upon between the company and Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, AFL.

For example, an employe receiving $40 a week when he left before Aug. 10, 1942, the effective date of the first contract between the company and MPOE, will return at a salary of approximately $53 or an increase of some 32½ per cent. Two additional eight per cent increases will be forthcoming Aug. 10, 1945, and Aug. 10, 1946, under a new MPOE-Warner contract.

Review

"The Mark of the Whistler"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Oct. 5

DERIVED from the radio program called "The Whistler," this melodrama preserves in all essential ways the style and format of the airshow. With Richard Dix as the man who tries crime and finds it doesn't pay, and Paul Guilfoyle alongside in one of his best performances, the picture gives good account of itself throughout its hour on the screen.

George Bricker's screenplay rates praise on two counts. It is an achievement in that it retains the spell of the radio original but does not contain a murder. And it approaches its criminality, as "Double Indemnity" did, from the point of view of the criminal, a device inducive of audience interest. In this case the criminal sets out to obtain money contained in a bank's dormant account, by impersonating the rightful claimant, and succeeds in doing so, only to discover that the rightful claimant is a target for assassination and to have the would-be assassins catch up with him. The rest of the plot is a thing to be seen, not told.

Rudolph C. Flothow produced, with full appreciation of his subject matter, and William Castle's direction makes every story point count. Janis Carter, Porter Hall, John Calvert and Matt Willis supply support.

Running time, 60 minutes. "G"* Release date, Nov. 2.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

* "G" denotes general classification.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 5

THERE is no veracity in the somewhat fascinating report going the rounds that the Production Code Administration (colloquially referred to as 'the Hays office') limits the number of killings per picture to seven. The canard originated with a producer who had submitted to the PCA a script containing nine killings and had been talked out of two of them as unnecessary. There is a PCA contention that killing can be overdone on the screen and should not be indulged in just by way of thinning out the cast or substituting violence for missing story value, but there's no over-all numerical limitation. The report was born, like so many others involving numbers, on a tablecloth at Mike Lyman's cafe.

•

Columbia has acquired "The Road to Carmichael's," a Saturday Evening Post story by Richard Wormser, as a vehicle for Chester Morris, and an unproduced play by Hardie Albright and Eddie Emerson, titled "Lola and the Wolves," which Sam Bischoff will produce. . . . Samuel Goldwyn has added Otto Kruger to the cast of "Wonder Man". . . . M-G-M has signed Agnes Moorehead to portray Margaret O'Brien's mother in "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes". . . . Martha O'Driscoll is to have the feminine lead with Abbott and Costello in their Universal picture, "Here Come the Co-Eds".

•

Eight writers are on new assignments at the Warners, for productions scheduled to go before the cameras in the next six months. Whitman Chambers is scripting "One Man's Secret"; Lawrence Hazard is at work on "The Frontiersman"; Charles Hoffman and Leo Townsend are preparing "Night and Day," the story of Cole Porter; Alan LeMay is doing "Calamity Jane," based on the life of that early American character; Leo C. Rosten is writing "Land I Have Chosen," from the best-seller by Ellin Berlin, and James Bloodworth is at work on "The Wallflower."

•

Monogram has six features scheduled to start shooting this month, inclusive of such contrasting items as "Divorce," Kay Francis' first for the studio, and "John Dillinger," the King Brothers' next. . . . George Pal has signed Webb Smith, former Disney sketch-story man (to use the trade title), for an important assignment in the story department. . . . M-G-M has added Robert Benchley to the cast of its all-star undertaking, "Weekend at the Waldorf." . . . "No Life for a Lady," an original by Gladys Shelly, has been added to the production agenda of Universal's associate producer-director, Charles Barton. . . . Samuel Goldwyn has engaged Grant Mitchell for an important role in "The Wonder Man."

•

"London Town", a musical in color, has been set as Wesley Ruggles' first production for J. Arthur Rank. Filming is expected to start in London May 1.

Krellberg to Coast To Set "Cassidys"

Sherman S. Krellberg, president of Adventure Pictures, will leave for the coast Friday, Oct. 13, to complete arrangements for the first of a new group of six pictures in the Hopalong Cassidy series. Krellberg acquired the rights from Western Pictures Corp., and, according to Krellberg, these rights include both re-make rights and unused Hopalong stories.

A young Marine, presently awaiting discharge, will play the Hopalong role, originated by Bill Boyd. Harry Sherman, who has produced the Cassidy series to date, also has the right to make any Cassidy films he wants, Krellberg said. (Sherman, in Hollywood, had questioned Krellberg's right to make any but six reissues of the original series). Krellberg also will negotiate for a major release while on the coast, and hopes to have his first in production by Jan. 15.

20th Pays $400,000 For 'Junior Miss'

Film rights to "Junior Miss" have been bought by 20th Century-Fox for $400,000, according to reports of a transaction confirmed here yesterday by an official of the company. The deal is said to follow the collapse of one tentatively entered into last May 25 by Warners, which was to have paid $425,000. Previously Mary Pickford gave up efforts to buy the play for $410,000.

"Junior Miss," dramatized by Jerome Chodorov and Joseph Fields from Sally Benson's *New Yorker* sketches, was produced by Max Gordon and ended a run of 710 performances on July 24.

Jerome Winsberg Elected

CHICAGO, Oct. 3.—Jerome Winsberg, manager of the Senate Theatre here, has been reelected president of the Balaban and Katz Employes Club. Other officers include: George H. Romine, first vice-president; Charles Cottle, second vice-president; George R. Greer, 3rd vice-president; S. E. Stott, treasurer; Dorothy Delre, secretary. The board of directors also includes: Harold F. Williams, Stanley Hartwell, William L. Evers, Norval E. Packwood, Thomas Duckworth.

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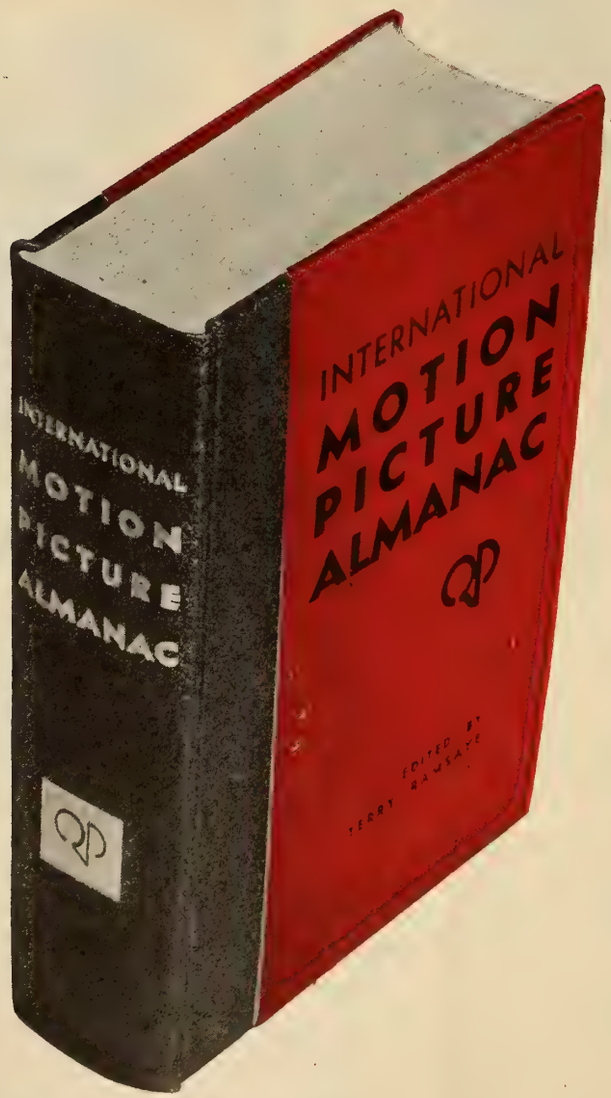

The 1944-45 International Motion Picture Almanac will be out next week . . . the book of facts about the motion picture industry . . . a summary of the "picture year" of 1943-44 . . . full information about the season of 1944-45.

INTERNATIONAL
MOTION
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ALMANAC

Edited by TERRY RAMSAYE

QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS
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Will Explain Video Links at SMPE Meet

(Continued from page 1)

and Boston by A.T.&T. for experimental purposes.

Although the SMPE television sub-committee is seeking the allocation by the Federal Communications Commission of experimental television channels in the higher frequencies to the film industry for the picking up of television programs from the studios and elsewhere and for transmitting these programs to theatres within a city and also for transmitting from city-to-city, it is possible that the facilities offered by the telephone company can also be used in their plans to make television programs available to theatres. Both methods would provide the theatres with television programs which would not be available to the general television audiences on their home television receivers in the postwar period.

A. T. & T. offered the use of its contemplated facilities to the film industry through MPPDA earlier this year. Although several film companies are understood to have evinced interest, no definite commitments have been made by any of the film companies to discuss the facilities offered or to exchange information with A.T. & T. as the phone company suggested. In presenting his report to SMPE, Osborne will apparently be going direct to the engineers of the motion picture industry.

Appeal Court Hears U. S. Kaufman Pleas

(Continued from page 1)

Newark, N. J., from their conviction under an indictment alleging a conspiracy to extort more than $1,000,000 from the film industry.

The six gangsters, all held by a Federal Court jury on Dec. 22, 1943, to have been members of the Al Capone gang, were sentenced to 10 years imprisonment and fined $10,000 each, while Kaufman was sentenced to seven years and fined $10,000. The Government case was argued by United States Assistant Attorney General Boris Kostelanetz, who outlined the alleged conspiracy for the court and urged that the convictions be upheld.

Presiding Justice Learned Hand intimated that, if the court finds after examining the record of the trial, that the evidence does not link Kaufman's alleged activities to George E. Browne, former IATSE president, and William Bioff, labor racketeer, who were the dominating figures of the alleged conspiracy, Kaufman's conviction would not stand. No decision is expected for at least five weeks.

Illinois Allied to Pool Buying of Equipment

(Continued from page 1)

postwar period, when prices are expected to continue high.

President Jack Kirsch presided over the meeting of 50 members who attended a closed war emergency meeting at the Blackstone Hotel. During luncheon, a National War Fund appeal was made by Arthur Schoenstadt, chairman of the amusement and recreation division. A plaque listing 268 local Allied employes in the service was dedicated.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS

JOAN FONTAINE AND ARTURO DE CORDOVA HAVE PLENTY TO CELEBRATE AS MORE NEW BROADWAY HISTORY IS MADE BY **"FRENCHMAN'S CREEK"**! GREATEST FIRST WEEK IN 27-YEAR LIFE OF N.Y. RIVOLI HAS JUST BEEN FOLLOWED BY GREATEST SECOND WEEK, BEATING THE FIRST-WEEK GROSS OF ANOTHER IMPORTANT ATTRACTION THAT PLAYED THE HOUSE AT HIGHER ADMISSION SCALE! AND FIRST DAY OF SECOND WEEK TOPPED OPENING DAY OF PRODUCER-DIRECTOR MITCHELL LEISEN'S TECHNICOLOR ROMANCE!

Schine Testifies in Anti-Trust Suit Against His Circuit

(Continued from page 1)

quired by Schine three years later.

Dickinson was cross-examined by Saul E. Rogers for Schine. Rogers brought out that Schine had the Rialto in Lockport before Dickinson became affiliated with the Palace and that the Rialto was a regular customer of the major distributors.

Further, Rogers confronted Dickinson with contracts showing that the Palace had a two-year franchise with Columbia and that the house also obtained first-run product from United Artists and some from Paramount and Universal.

Closed by Paramount

Rogers also showed that the Hi-Art was not originally closed by Schine, but instead by Paramount and that both the Rialto and the Hi Art were operated by a Schine-Paramount Corp. Dickinson's testimony was that he had talked with Carroll in Schine's Rialto Theatre, Lockport, and that Carroll told him he had three days to sell the Palace to Schine, otherwise Schine would reopen the long-closed Hi-Art Theatre, on which the circuit held a lease. The offer, according to Dickinson, was for $16,000 "plus a percentage."

"He gave us a few days to decide whether to accept the proposal, otherwise they would reopen the Hi-Art," testified Dickinson. "I told him I wasn't interested."

Dickinson said that at this time he was vice-president of Reliance Theatres Corp., which operated the Palace.

Neither Schine nor May said they could remember particulars of Carroll being in their employ in 1933, but admitted that he later became the Schine manager in the Rochester district.

May Produce Records

Wright asked Schine if he could produce records from Gloversville to show Carroll's title in 1933. Schine said he might be able to, but that it would take several days. Wright asked him to do so.

Brought to the stand during the afternoon session was Max H. Rose of Brooklyn, an attorney employed by Schwartz & Frohlich, counsel to Columbia Pictures. Rose was designated by Columbia to compile interoffice memos, contracts and recommendations in answer to Government subpoenas, some served recently and some on May 19, 1944. He testified as to their authenticity.

Silverstone Sees S. A. Topping Continent

(Continued from page 1)

to take over the responsibility of determining what pictures should go into a pool for distribution in the liberated countries. Although a local spokesman for the OWI said he had no information as to this effect, MOTION PICTURE DAILY of Sept. 20 reported that a plan had been projected for an industry representative to handle distribution abroad in the interim period from the time when the OWI relinquishes control to distributors and the time when they were ready to take over operation on an individual basis.

Equipment Dealers Open Annual Convention Today

CHICAGO, Oct. 5.—The annual convention of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association will open here today at the Bismarck Hotel with a record attendance of 150 to 200 and the largest membership in its history. The meeting will be swelled by official speakers from Washington as well as by scores of industry leaders during the three-day sessions.

The problems facing the 41 company members are manifold, and of the utmost importance at the present moment with the possibility of V-E Day coming before the first of the year, posing the question of reconversion which would permit construction of new theatres, re-conditioning and equipping of others.

The opening session will be devoted to a closed business meeting for members of the Association as well as the equipment manufacturers and representatives of allied interests. Also today, the first of a series of discussions will be held covering the mutual problems of dealers and manufacturers, as well as charting of courses for the trade, not only for the two remaining months of this year, but also for 1945, and taking both the possibility of continuing war or sudden peace into consideration.

Smith to Speak

Allen G. Smith, WPB Theatre head in Washington, will address the convention, as will Nathan D. Golden, head of the film division of the Department of Commerce. Both men came to the convention from Washington, and Smith will give the members his views on the material situation on Saturday, while Golden will discuss the outlook for film trade in the foreign market on Sunday. Smith's speech will be a prepared one, but he is also ready to answer questions of dealers and manufacturers on changing orders of the WPB regarding the release of theatre equipment materials following V-E Day.

On Sunday, last day of the convention, the morning will be devoted to an open forum between dealers and manufacturers in which they will air their problems and discuss post war demands in the equipment field. The convention will close Sunday night with the address by Golden who will also talk about the increasing demands of equipment for export after the fall of Germany. No officers will be elected, Ray G. Colvin of the Exhibitors Supply of St. Louis continuing as president and secretary.

Chicago Representatives

Among the Chicago representatives at the convention will be the DeVry Corporation, with William C. DeVry having made the arrangements for the Hotel Bismarck; Bell and Howell, represented by James Booth, vice president; Motiograph, whose delegation will be represented by the Matthews brothers; Roy Boomer and Ray Sherman. M. H. and E. W. Goldberg as well as B. Pearlman will represent Golde Manufacturing Co., Samuel Levinson the Chicago Used Chair Co., and C. G. Anders and V. H. Naylon, the Doll Theatre Supply Co. E. R. Fensin represents Fensin Seating Co., and Ed Wolk and Ira Autok, the Ed Wolk company. The Continental Electric Company will be represented by H. A. McIlvaine, president and R. E. Smiley, sales promotion manager.

RCA, National Carbon, U. S. Air Conditioning, Altec, National-Simplex-Bludworth, Century Projector and many others have sent delegates.

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Short Subject Reviews

"Flicker Flashbacks"
(RKO-Pathe)

The new series of 'Flashbacks' gets off to a fine start with "The Doctor's Bride" (or "An Evil Thought Thwarted"). It is a real old 'meller' with all of the swoons that used to leave audiences of the 90's limp. The fair lady, tempted to leave her husband dreams she is left in the lurch and becomes frightened enough to return to him. Charlie Chaplin sparks the second Flicker, a 'pie-in-the-eye' Keystone comedy which should recall many memories to oldtimers and also provide some good laughs for the youngsters. Richard O. Fleischer produced. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Plane Daffy"
(Warners)

Daffy Duck, a woman-hater and a flier with the Army Pigeon Command, sets out to find a lost bird who has been influenced by Hata Mari, an enemy agent, in a pigeon-coop between the Pigeon Base and the enemy lines. The infamous Hata, however, has methods for brave Daffy, too. This cartoon is one of the cleverest in the new Warner series. The idea is new and is executed in a fashion which will bring many laughs. Frank Tashlin supervised. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Rhythm on Wheels"
(Paramount)

This first release in the new Grantland Rice Sportlight series is devoted to roller skating and includes demonstrations of plain and fancy skating by leading exponents of the sport. Skate fans especially should enjoy it thoroughly, although it is satisfactory fare for everyone. Running time, 9½ minutes.

"Unusual Occupations"
(Paramount)

The new series of "Unusual Occupations" is off to a fine start with this release. It is a well balanced and interesting subject done in subdued yet attractive color. Featured are representatives of several sections of this country and of South America. Running time, 10 minutes.

"I'm Just Curious"
(Paramount)

"Little Lulu" explains to the audience that all the pranks for which she has been punished were only the result of her curiosity, in a highly original and catchy song theme entitled "I'm Just Curious." Running time, 7 minutes.

"Two Gun Rusty"
(Paramount)

George Pal's Puppetoon treatment of the familiar "hoss-opry" theme, with 'Rusty' as the two-fisted hero, riding a hobby horse and strumming a toy guitar, is a delight. It is lovely fantasy throughout and should have appeal for adults as well as children. Rusty rides his 'pony' into a prairie bar where he drinks strawberry sodas with the rest of the 'boys' and engages in a "fight-to-the-finish' with Pistol Packin' Pete. Coloring is beautiful, and the story is clever and well executed. Running time 7½ minutes.

"Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys"
(Warners)

Bob Wills and his Prairie-land band have soared to tremendous popularity within the past few years. The story of Wills' rise to fame is shown, accompanied by his own music. Featuring tunes which are best loved in the middle and far West, this one is a sure-fire winner in those territories as well as wholesome piece of diverting and entertaining film fare for any section. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Monkey Business"
(Paramount)

The "Speaking of Animals" series reaches a high in entertainment with this latest Fairbanks-Carlisle release, a rollicking short chock full of laughs. The film was made with the cooperation of the St. Louis Zoo and the chimps behave like prima donnas all the way, highlighting a neat little vaudeville routine leading up to a monkey band's rendition of "Down in Jungle Town" which is downright hilarious. Running time, 9 minutes.

"It's Nifty To Be Thrifty"
(Paramount)

The story of this cartoon is the familiar fable of the thrifty ant and the spend-thrifty-grasshopper. It is amusing. The music score of this "Little Lulu" is especially good. Running time, 8 minutes.

"Buckaroo Bugs"
(Warners)

Bugs Bunny, always good for a laugh, mixes with Red Hot Ryder, a two-fisted cowboy from Brooklyn. Many hilarious sequences ensue. Bugs is always a good drawing card, although this cartoon is not up to usual standards. Running time, 7 minutes.

Mrs. Anna Blanke Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—Mrs. Anna Blanke, 65, died here yesterday at the home of her son, Henry Blanke, Warner producer.

Services will be held Saturday morning at the Jones and Myer mortuary at Van Nuys.

Beresford Rites Today

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—Services for Harry Beresford, 80, screen and stage veteran who died here yesterday of a heart attack, will be held at Forest Lawn tomorrow.

Two Incorporate

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 5.—H. K. W. Productions, Inc., and Film Rights, Inc., have been in-corporated here. Both will operate in New York. H. K. W. directors: Harold L. Lipton, Irving Fagenson, Hallam K. Williams. Film Rights directors are: Irving Shapiro, Martin Mermelstein and Etta Z. Sealove.

Rodgers Meets Press

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and sales head, will meet with trade press representatives at a luncheon at the Astor Hotel, Tuesday, Oct. 10.

M-G-M Decorators Go Out on Strike

(Continued from page 1)

tion. They based their refusal to recognize SSD on the contention that the union has not been certified by the National Labor Relations Board and that jurisdiction over the group is claimed by both CSU and IATSE.

In a statement issued this afternoon, Herbert Sorrell, CSU president, said the decorators have been waiting for the producers to deal with them and that waiting for NLRB action would require three or four months, whereas the union feels its members have waited long enough.

A special meeting of the set decorators has been called for tomorrow night, and the painters have set Sunday for a meeting. Sorrell's statement said a strike vote might be taken at either session.

The producers' association tonight issued a statement declaring: "The producers are squarely in the middle of an inter-union fight which already is crippling production at M-G-M and threatens to halt entirely the making of pictures by all studios." The statement went on to declare that producers "cannot, in view of this dispute, recognize one or the other as the bargaining agent without certification by the NLRB."

12 Yearly from New Pincus, Osso Unit

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 5.—Filmos, S. A., Mexico's newest producing company, backed by Alexander Gregory Pincus and Adolphe Osso, here from the United States, will produce 12 pictures annually, the first to be "Sinfonia de Una Vida," to start in October. The first is a biography of the late Miguel Lerdo de Tejeda, Mexico's well-known composer and conductor of the Typical Orchestra which has appeared in several motion pictures here. "Ninos Perdinos" will follow "Sinfonia de Una Vida." Several prominent players have already been signed, including Mapy and Fernando Cortes, Emilio Tuero and Rosita Diaz.

Osso and Pincus formerly operated in Hollywood and Paris. Osso was associated with Paramount in France from 1920 to 1930 and headed Films Osso in Paris until 1940.

Burger Will Leave Oct. 18 for S. A.

Sam Burger, M-G-M home office foreign representative, will leave here Oct. 18 for a four-month sales trip in Latin-America.

Burger will inspect theatres operated there by M-G-M and will also conduct sales meetings. His first stop will be Havana, from where he will proceed down the West Coast of South America.

Grant, Quinn to HVC

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—Morton Grant of the Screen Writers Guild and Don Quinn, representing the Radio Writers Guild, have been appointed to the executive board of the Hollywood Victory Committee, expanding the membership of the board to 43. Don Searle, representing the Blue Network, has replaced Don Gilman.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

Trade Showings

of **SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S**

presentation of

BOB HOPE

The Princess AND THE *Pirate*

In Technicolor

with **VIRGINIA MAYO** and **WALTER SLEZAK**

WALTER BRENNAN · VICTOR McLAGLEN

DIRECTED BY DAVID BUTLER

Screenplay by Don Hartman, Melville Shavelson and Everett Freeman

BRANCH	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	Day & Date	TIME
Albany	Fox Projection Room	1052 Broadway	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Atlanta	RKO Projection Room	191 Walton St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Boston	RKO Projection Room	122 Arlington St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Buffalo	Fox Projection Room	290 Franklin St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Charlotte	Fox Projection Room	308 So. Church St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Chicago	RKO Projection Room	1300 So. Wabash Ave.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Projection Room	12 E. 6th St.	Tues. 10/10	8:15 P. M.
Cleveland	Fox Projection Room	2219 Payne Ave.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Dallas	Paramount Projection Room	412 So. Harwood St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Denver	Paramount Projection Room	2100 Stout St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Des Moines	Fox Projection Room	1300 High St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Detroit	Blumental Projection Room	2310 Cass Ave.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Indianapolis	Paramount Projection Room	116 W. Michigan St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Kansas City	Edison Hall	1330 Baltimore Ave.	Tues. 10/10	8:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	Ambassador Theatre	Ambassador Hotel	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Memphis	Fox Projection Room	151 Vance Ave.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Projection Room	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Minneapolis	Fox Projection Room	1015 Currie Ave.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
New Haven	Fox Projection Room	40 Whiting St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
New Orleans	Fox Projection Room	200 So. Liberty St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
New York	Normandie Theatre	E. 53rd St. & Park Ave.	Tues. 10/10	10:30 A.M.
Oklahoma City	Fox Projection Room	10 No. Lee St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Omaha	Fox Projection Room	1502 Davenport St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Philadelphia	RKO Projection Room	250 No. 13th St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Pittsburgh	Fox Projection Room	1715 Blvd. of Allies	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Portland	Star Pre-view Room	925 N.W. 19th St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
St. Louis	S'Renco Projection Room	3143 Olive St.	Tues. 10/10	4:15 P.M.
Salt Lake City	Fox Projection Room	216 E. First South St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
San Francisco	RKO Projection Room	251 Hyde St.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box Projection Roc	2318 — 2nd Ave.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.
Sioux Falls	Hollywood Theatre	212 No. Philips Ave.	Tues. 10/10	10:30 A.M
Washington	Fox Projection Room	932 New Jersey Ave.	Tues. 10/10	2:30 P.M.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 69 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1944 TEN CENTS

Decorators to Ask U.S. to Allow Strike

Walkouts Spread to 3 More Coast Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—While the producers reiterated the statement that they are without power to recognize the Studio Set Decorators Union as a bargaining agency without National Labor Relations Board certification, the union's business manager, Ed Mussa, told the membership at a special meeting Friday night at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel that the NLRB has said the producers have right to require certification but do not have the obligation to do so.

Reviewing the history of negotiations which ended Wednesday night and was followed Thursday by non-reporting of set designers at M-G-M, with the result that painters and machinists walked out at noon, Mussa

(*Continued on page* 5)

Canadian Theatres Appeal to Gov't

TORONTO, Oct. 8.—Representatives of independent theatre organizations from Nova Scotia to Saskatchewan, disturbed by their failure to obtain a conciliation code for the theatre industry during their conference with distributors and chain executives here last week, paid a visit on Friday to J. R. Croft, administrator of services for the federal Wartime Prices and Trade Board, and placed their grievances before him.

This move, it was stated, was made in an effort to renew claims for gov-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Strike Bulletin

Hollywood, Oct. 8.—Paramount workers walked out Saturday. Last night the painters, 500 strong, met, voted against striking and placed confidence in Herbert Sorrell, Conference of Studio Unions president, who will meet tomorrow with producers' representatives and Earl Ruddy, U. S. Department of Labor conciliator. Whether IATSE president Richard F. Walsh will attend is in doubt.

Appoint 18 State Chairmen to 6th War Loan Campaign

With independent exhibitors spearheading the industry's Sixth War Loan campaign, Harry Brandt, industry national chairman, announced at the weekend the appointment of 18 state chairmen, covering the entire Northeastern area from Maine to North Carolina and a Midwest appointee in Wisconsin.

Malcolm Kingsberg

Malcolm Kingsberg, RKO vice president, has been appointed metropolitan New York area chairman. Fol-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Report Para. Talks On Cobian Circuit

Ramos Cobian, Puerto Rican exhibitor, is now negotiating with Paramount and 20th Century-Fox on a participation deal in his recently acquired circuits in Cuba, it was learned at the weekend. Cobian is also talking with the two distributors with a view to interesting them in the erection of four or five additional houses in Cuba. He recently acquired the eight theatres of the Smith circuit, Havana, and four houses of the Fernandez circuit in Camaguey, Cuba.

The Puerto Rican exhibitor, who

(*Continued on page* 5)

Street Lines Outside Paris Theatres

London, Oct. 8.—Round-the-block waiting lines at Paris theatres, particularly those featuring newsreels, are a daily occurrence. The Paramount Gaumont Palace, with newsreels and the Liberation of France Chronicle, is an outstanding example. Admission prices are uniformly at 15 francs. There is no communal electricity availible and power is being supplied by English-made mobile generators operated by U. S. Army technicians.

Study Theatre Ads At Schine Trial

BUFFALO, Oct. 8.—Judging from newspaper advertisements regarding theatre operation in Lockport during the fall of 1933 which were read into the record during the Schine anti-trust trial on Friday, by both Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice and Edward F. McClennen, Schine counsel, that city was a paradise of theatre give-aways and unusual exploitation. Witnesses included Seth Raisler, of Laurelton, O., for seven years assistant to the general sales manager of Columbia, who testified as to the identity of certain Columbia officials whose names already have been mentioned during trial or will be brought up in the future.

James A. White, Lockport mechanical engineer who was executor of the estate of Charles Dickinson, who died

(*Continued on page* 5)

Wendell Willkie, 20th-Fox Chairman, Dies at 52

Wendell L. Willkie, chairman of the board of 20th Century-Fox and 1940 Republican presidential candidate, died early yesterday morning at Lenox Hill Hospital here of an acute cardiac condition following a streptococcic infection. He was 52.

Willkie's first association with the industry was as its chief counsel in a Senate committee's "war-mongering" investigation of films in 1941. Screen rights to his book "One World" are owned by 20th-Fox.

The body will lie in state from 2 P. M. today at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Services will be held tomorrow at 3 P. M., with the Rev. Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell officiating, followed by burial at Rushville, Ind. Survivors include Mrs. Willkie, who was at her husband's bedside; a son, Lieut. Phillip Willkie, U.S.N., on convoy duty in the Atlantic, and a brother, Edward.

Upon receiving the news, Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, said: "He was a constant stumulus and inspiration to all of us who were privileged to be associated with him. Our company and industry shall miss him more than words can express, and I shall miss a very dear, close, personal friend."

V-E Day May Free Theatre Supplies: Smith

Golden Sees Vast Need For Equipment in Europe

CHICAGO, Oct. 8.—Members of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, which ended its three-day convention tonight at the Bismarck Hotel here, were told that the lid is still clamped tight on the release or the manufacture of equipment for commercial use, but were offered hope for relief after the collapse of Germany.

Allen G. Smith, War Production Board theatre equipment chief, who came in from Washington, was featured in yesterday's and today's open forums and repeatedly reminded the group that there is still a war to be won, and until victory is ours, resumption of normal trade is out of the question. Smith did away with a

(*Continued on page* 5)

Three Named to New Para. Foreign Posts

Strategic revision of Paramount foreign department posts, made with a view to readjustment to the post-war situation, was announced at the weekend by John W. Hicks, Jr., president of Paramount International Films, Inc., with the shifting of assignments and adding of additional territories to three members of the department. The men affected are James E. Perkins, A. L. Pratchett and Robert L. Graham.

Hicks has named Perkins division

(*Continued on page* 5)

Will Set Rehiring Of Returning Vets

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—A conference between production employers and employes to plan the re-employment of returning veterans was agreed upon at the weekend when the Association of Motion Picture Producers accepted the invitation from the Hollywood Council of Guilds and Unions, to name a committee to meet with a HCGU group and compare proposals.

The basic HCGU plan is expected to make more jobs to take care of the re-employment of veterans and is not expected to result in unemployment for workers now holding jobs. A HCGU spokesman said the meeting will probably take place during November.

Personal Mention

HY DAAB, Vanguard Coast publicist, who has been in New York for the past week following the Atlanta opening of "Since You Went Away," will leave for Hollywood Wednesday.

•

JACK COHN and ABE SCHNEIDER of Columbia left Hollywood for New York Friday on the Superchief. A. MONTAGUE and NATE SPINGOLD are continuing their visit on the Coast.

•

C. J. LATTA, Albany zone manager for Warner Theatres, and MAX FRIEDMAN, buyer and booker for that territory, were weekend visitors in New York.

•

H. J. YATES, SR., Republic board chairman, is expected in New York today from Hollywood. JAMES R. GRAINGER, president, arrived at the weekend from Toronto.

•

R. J. O'DONNELL will arrive in New York this morning from Dallas. He is accompanied by RAY BEALL of Interstate Circuit.

•

JOHN BALABAN, head of Balaban and Katz Theatres, is due back in Chicago today following a three-day fishing trip.

•

WALTER BRANSON, RKO Western division sales manager, returned to New York from Chicago at the weekend.

•

MIKE FISH, art editor of Warners studio publicity department, arrived in Chicago late last week on a tour of key cities.

•

CARL LESERMAN, United Artists general sales manager, is scheduled to arrive today from Hollywood.

•

CHARLES SCHWARTZ, film attorney, will take the Superchief out of Hollywood for New York tomorrow.

MGM 'Romance' Plug Ready for Pay-Off

M-G-M is going all out on its national magazine advertising campaign for "An American Romance," which will have a 132-city world premiere in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia on Columbus Day. This premiere will be supplemented Oct. 26-27 by the 48 state capitals and Washington, D. C., showings.

Advertising on the Technicolor picture during October, November and December will appear in 22 magazines with a combined circulation of approximately 30,000,000.

The event will be climaxed by a special banquet to be held Oct. 11 at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, when King Vidor and a number of stars, home office executives, local dignitaries and officials of WLW will attend.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

SINCE having pointed out in this space last week that Allied States and PCCITO must have the answers that other exhibitors are still seeking to several obvious questions concerning the Government's proposed amendments to the consent decree, a number of which appear to be undesirable, if not dangerous, to all exhibition, there has been brought to our attention a bulletin recently issued to members of the I. T. O. of Ohio. That organization is affiliated with Allied and several of its officers were present at the Bretton Woods, N. H., meeting last month which endorsed the Government's decree proposals after a question-and-answer period with Assistant U. S. Attorney General Robert L. Wright, which trade press representatives were not permitted to attend. That, presumably, was the time, place and source of whatever answers Allied and PCCITO may have obtained to silence their qualms about the new decree proposals, leaving them free to approve the Government's action.

•

One of the questions concerning the new decree proposals raised by the Southeastern Theatre Owners Association, as reported here last week, was the extent to which independent circuits might be affected by the Government's avowed policy of making little ones out of big ones.

Addressing itself to this question (which, incidentally, it refers to as a "propaganda rumor circulated by affiliated interests"), the I. T. O. of Ohio bulletin declares: there "is no power anywhere to dissolve a circuit or to compel an exhibitor to dispose of theatres, except for violation of the Sherman Act. . . . It is no violation of that Act for an exhibitor to have more than one theatre, or even all the theatres in a town of any size."

The bulletin goes on to say the "abuse of great buying power . . . determines whether the law has been violated and, consequently, whether a circuit should be dissolved." It concludes: "If you have not violated the law, nothing can harm you."

If that is the best Wright has to offer independents who question his new decree proposals, it should be pointed out that there is no statement quoted herewith or contained in the I.T.O. of Ohio bulletin which does not apply equally to affiliated circuits. Every whit of consolation that an independent exhibitor, particularly a circuit operator, can skim from those pronouncements is available therein to the affiliated circuits also.

Certainly, it cannot be said that "if you (the independent) have not violated the law, nothing can harm you," but on the other hand "if you (the affiliated) have not violated the law, you can be harmed."

And how much assurance for either independent or affiliated exhibitor is there in those words? Is it safe for any independent exhibitor to assume that his operations are legal, per se, but that the same or similar operations of an affiliated are illegal, or vice versa?

Whether or not some of the fundamental practices within exhibition and distribution constitute violations of the anti-trust laws is not known. That is true for the independent as well as for the affiliated company. The courts have not fully examined nor ruled upon many basic practices common to all in the industry. The situation is reminiscent of the observation, common a few years back, that the Constitution is not what it appears to be but what the Supreme Court says it is. That is equally true of the anti-trust laws in their application to industry practices, with the additional uncertainty at this time that what one Attorney General may charge is a violation of the anti-trust laws may not be so regarded by his successor.

•

An independent exhibitor who regards the proposed decree amendments as something applicable only to large distributors and their affiliated theatres is not using his noodle. An independent exhibitor who consoles himself by saying "I am not violating the law. Nothing can harm me," is leaning on a reed. He, no more than the affiliated exhibitor, knows whether what he is doing or may be accused of doing is in violation of the anti-trust laws. Attorney General Biddle has proclaimed his policy for this industry. It is: "No discrimination will be shown." As pointed out before, the Government is on record in the Griffith case as taking the position that a monopoly in any community, however small, affects interstate trade in motion pictures.

No consenting distributor and no affiliated theatre operator concedes or believes that his operations are in violation of the anti-trust laws. The companies made their disavowal of any violation of the law in the opening section of the consent decree of Nov. 20, 1940, a document to which the Government was a party. But observe what the Government is asking of them, four years later.

"If you are not violating the law" is an empty phrase while much of the law remains unwritten, uncharted and undecided, for the independent as well as the affiliated. The wise exhibitor will examine the Government's decree proposals minutely and in this light before giving them his endorsement.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 8

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, president of Loew's, Inc., postponed his scheduled departure for the East because of the studio strike situation.

•

JOHN W. CONSIDINE, JR., resigned at the weekend from M-G-M, where he has been a producer for a number of years.

Clark Is Welcomed To Toronto Post

TORONTO, Oct. 8.—Ralph H. Clark, newly appointed general manager for Warners in the Dominion, received a formal welcome to Canada Friday night in a reception attended by many industry executives at the King Edward Hotel here.

Among Warners' home office representatives were Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager; Norman H. Moray, short subjects sales manager; Mort Blumenstock, publicity director, and Wolfe Cohen, who was promoted to the home office foreign distribution department after serving for many years as head of Warners in Canada.

Kuykendall Draws St. L. Series Pass

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 8.—World Series competition proved too strong for a scheduled weekend meeting of local theatre owners with Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president. After conferring with Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA chairman, Kuykendall left for his home in Mississippi and plans to return to St. Louis at a time to be set later.

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The Woman in the Window

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THE SCREEN'S SUPREME ADVENTURE IN SUSPENSE!

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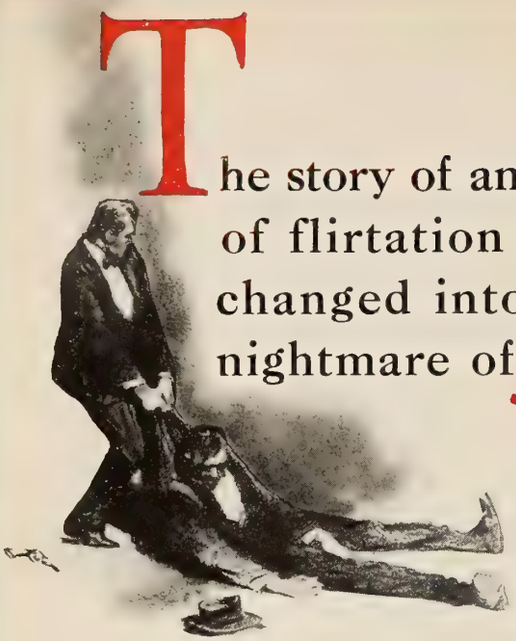
INTERNATIONAL PICTURES,
producers of that box-office
champion, "Casanova Brown" . . .



The story of an evening of flirtation that changed into a nightmare of **MURDER!**

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The Woman in the Window

with

RAYMOND MASSEY
and
Edmond Breon • Dan Duryea

Directed by FRITZ LANG
A NUNNALLY JOHNSON Production
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

GOOD ENTERTAINMENT

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES, INC.

IS *INTERNATIONAL!*

Frisco Pace Fast; Week's Takes Are Big

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 8.—New bills proved good box office while holdovers slackened off at all major houses. No end is in sight as yet for "Since You Went Away," now in its sixth week at the United Artists.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3 to 5:

"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"The Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $15,000).

"Since You Went Away" (U.A.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (74c-$1.20) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $16,700. (Average: $11,000).

"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $27,000).

"Sweet and Low-down" (20th-Fox)
WARFIELD — (2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $25,000).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $33,500. (Average: $28,000).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT — (2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000).

"Janie" (WB)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Moveover from Fox. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $13,000).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Port of 40 Thieves" (Rep.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Moveover from Fox. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,000).

Study Theatre Ads At Schine Trial

(*Continued from page* 1)

in 1933, testified as to the disposal of Dickinsons' assets including the Palace Theatre in Lockport. He told of meeting with Myer Schine and Willard McKay with regard to the theatres being for sale. Wright then called McKay to the stand presenting the unusual picture of a defense counsel being placed on the stand as a Government witness.

During the day, Thomas F. Murray of Universal and Stephen W. McGrath of United Artists, were recalled for the purpose of identifying company records subpoenaed by the Government.

$443,328 Net for Greater Union Ltd.

Greater Union Theatres of Australia made a net profit, after taxes, of $443,328 for the last fiscal year, compared to a net of $427,564 for the preceding year, Norman Rydge, chairman of the board, who is here from that country, reported at the weekend.

Shareholders received a dividend of $200,000 declared by the board, which also placed $243,328 in reserve. During that period, the circuit increased its theatre holdings to 63, adding 12 additional houses.

Brueck Rites Friday

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 8.—Funeral services for Theodore M. Brueck, 74, a founder and superintendent of the Ilex Optical Co. and inventor of the camera were held Friday. Brueck, a native of Germany, died last Tuesday.

European V-Day May Free Theatre Supplies: Smith

(*Continued from page* 1)

prepared speech and, instead, turned the meeting into informal question-answer sessions. He explained the recent amendments in the equipment limitation order No. L-325, which controls the distribution of all theatre equipment. Smith said that a 40 per cent cutback in war production after the fall of Germany is a possibility, in which case equipment manufacturers will benefit proportionately.

Nathan D. Golden, motion picture officer of the Department of Commerce, told the banquet audience that it will be up to American manufacturers to supply most of the warring nations with theatre equipment after the collapse of Germany, and, later after the fall of Japan. He revealed that the requirements for overseas use after the war will be tremendous and already liberated areas are hungry for new projectors, sound systems and other equipment. He based his statements on a survey being made by the Department of Commerce and among American consulates representing foreign countries who are supplying vital information about the worldwide theatre supply picture.

Golden indicated that few if any countries can hope to compete with American manufacturers after the war, and that so much progress in the improvement of equipment has been made here in the past three years that this country will be away out front in export trade.

Ray G. Colvin of Exhibitors Supply, St. Louis, and president-secretary of TEDPA, presided at all sessions. The association's business affairs were reviewed at a closed meeting Friday. Saturday and Sunday meetings, as well as the closing banquet, were open to non-member dealers and manufacturers.

Paris Can't Handle OWI-MOI Newsreel

LONDON, Oct. 8.—Contrary to general expectations, headquarters of the Office of War Information-Ministry of Information newsreel will remain in London for the time being, its removal to Paris having been postponed for at least six weeks.

Recent investigations have shown French laboratories to be in good shape but the raw stock situation there is grimmer even than it is in London. In addition, the need for remedying the lack of fuel in Paris as soon as possible would require newsreel operations there to take a low priority in the scheme of Army logistics on all materials and supplies essential to the forward troops. Accordingly, there is no hope at present of obtaining necessary supplies for production of raw stock in France.

In addition, it will be difficult for some time to maintain an efficient censorship service in Paris under present circumstances while former collaborationists may remain unidentified.

However, *Le Monde Libre* is being edited and processed here and a negative is shipped to Paris bi-weekly, where it is printed. That is regarded as the limit of the present facilities in Paris.

DuMont Television Opens New Studio

DuMont Television station WABC has opened a new television studio here, and has expanded its original television facilities. In addition to the original studio, projection room, laboratory and other quarters, the station now occupies another floor for its new studio, two reviewing rooms, a theatre, general offices, dressing and property rooms and other accommodations.

N. J. Allied to Meet

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will hold a general membership meeting at its New York office tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. Thornton Kelly, executive secretary, has reported. Harry H. Lowenstein will preside at the session.

Three Named to New Para. Foreign Posts

(*Continued from page* 1)

manager for all territories from Japan to India, including China, the Philippine Islands, Dutch East Indies, the Straits Settlements, Burma, Ceylon, New Zealand, Australia and also South Africa. Prior to the war in the Pacific, Perkins was Paramount's managing director for Japan, China, the Philippines, the Straits Settlements, Dutch East Indies and India.

The new assignment for Pratchett makes him division manager for all Latin America, taking in all countries in Central and South America from Mexico to and including Argentina and also the Caribbean area. This increases the territories now under Pratchett by the addition of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay.

Graham, has been named as a Paramount International special overseas representative, with a roving assignment which will first take him to the European area. In February of this year, Graham was called from his post as branch manager in Mexico to make a film survey in Spain. Since returning in May he has been doing special work in Paramount's home office.

Canadian Theatres Appeal to Gov't

(*Continued from page* 1)

ernment control because "the trade has been unable to agree upon a system of self-regulation."

Among those in the delegation were: A. J. Mason, president of the National Council of Independent Exhibitors of Canada; Ben Freedman, president of the Ontario council; P. W. Mahon of Prince Albert, Sask.; B. C. Salamis of Montreal, and Henry Falk.

Fete Amos 'N Andy

The National Broadcasting Co. will fete Amos 'N Andy (Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll) at a press luncheon at 21 Club here tomorrow.

Decorators to Ask U.S. to Allow Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

asked for and received authorization to apply to the Government for the right to strike within 30 days unless the negotiation is concluded.

The producers' contention that they are "in the middle of an inter-union battle" stems from an IATSE claim that more than 30 per cent of the set designers' membership is basically IATSE through former and continuing membership in the prop men's union.

The set designers, affiliated with the Conference of Studio Unions, contends that not more than 15 per cent of its membership ever belonged to IATSE, declaring that IATSE's intervenor in the set designers' petition to the NLRB for certification was withdrawn following failure to present proof to controvert this.

An NLRB spokesman at the weekend confirmed the withdrawal of the intervenor and said no action of any kind is now pending on its agenda.

Walkouts Unauthorized

Asked whether work stoppages such as occurred Thursday at M-G-M and Friday at Columbia, might spread, Mussa said this was the proposed pattern but had no official authorization and represents simply individual action on part of workers. The understanding is that the pattern will be followed in daily progression from plant to plant. In response to a question on whether other crafts might follow the painters' and machinists' example, Mussa said he did not know but that this could happen, too, unless a settlement is made, as expected, within a few days. "We have no intention of going on strike without following provision set forth by Government rulings," Mussa emphasized.

Walkouts of decorators, painters and machinists occurred Friday at the Darmour and Talisman studios as well as at Columbia.

Report Para. Talk On Cobian Circuit

(*Continued from page* 1)

operates 22 houses in that country, is here winding up discussions with the possibility of interesting one or both, with Warners having dropped out of the discussions.

After Cobian has concluded arrangements on his Cuban holdings, he plans to further expand to other Latin-American countries, with Jamaica probably the first territory, followed by Venezuela, Columbia, Trinidad. Also under discussion with Paramount and 20th-Fox is the obtaining of franchises for his Cuban houses.

Cobian will return to Puerto Rico in two weeks, returning here sometime in January.

'On Stage' Shifted

"On Stage Everybody," the Blue Network radio program which Universal is using as a talent source for a film based on the program, will be heard on Wednesday evenings instead of Saturday evening effective Wednesday.

here is the story!

"TOP PICTURE of the industry's TOP YEAR!"

Yes, that's what they're saying about . . .

David O. Selznick's

first production since "Gone With The Wind" and "Rebecca".

Since You Went Away

...and here are the facts!

"Since You Went Away" played 10 weeks at the Capitol, New York—and topped the phenomenal attendance and box-office records set by "Gone With The Wind" *up to now* the most popular attraction in screen history!

"Since You Went Away" is a hold-out, hold-over attraction *everywhere*! ...for instance, San Francisco, Stamford, Dayton, Boston, Columbus, Toledo, Louisville, St. Louis, Richmond, Washington, Springfield, Mass.. etc....etc....etc.!

TRENTON, N. J. . . . population 124,697 . . . of whom 63,318 (more than half!) saw "Since you Went Away" in its first 4 weeks at the Mayfair...then it moved to the Stacy-Trent for a 5*th* week, *and* NO picture ever held over more than 3 *weeks* in Trenton before!

Hold-over grosses on "Since You Went Away" are *at least* 10% better than on any other hold-over attraction in years!

". . . with the greatest all-star cast in screen history!

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U.A.

IT'S INDEPENDENTS' DAY!

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 8

THE Warner studio plans to continue its present heavy production schedule throughout October. Five pictures are already in work, and a sixth, "Stolen Life," which stars Bette Davis, is scheduled to go Oct. 23. Those at present before cameras include "Nobody Lives Forever," which stars John Garfield and Geraldine Fitzgerald; "Pillar to Post," a comedy with Ida Lupino and Sydney Greenstreet; "Of Human Bondage"; "God Is My Co-Pilot"; and "San Antonio," Technicolor feature starring Errol Flynn.

Jack H. Skirball and Bruce Manning have signed Claudette Colbert to star in "Guest Wife," probably for United Artists release.

•

Ralph Lewis, Monogram contract player, has been signed for "John Dillinger," a gangster drama which the King Brothers will produce. . . . John Calvert has been assigned to play the heavy in "Lawless Empire," latest of Columbia's "Durango Kid" series of Westerns. . . . W. R. Frank is setting up a national promotional campaign for his picture, "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog."

•

George Cox, detective story writer, has completed work on the M-G-M picture tentatively titled "The Last Express," which Robert Sisk will produce, and in which Edward Arnold will be starred. . . . Martha O'Driscoll is set for the feminine lead in the new Abbott and Costello comedy, "Here Come the Co-Eds," which Jean Yarbrough will direct for Universal.

•

How to make a Western without women is to be demonstrated by producer Sigmund Neufeld in "His Brother's Ghost," starring Buster Crabbe, for PRC. How to make one without horses awaits demonstration by some other pioneer. . . . Paramount Musical Parades producer Lou Harris is six months ahead of his production schedule, with four in the can and two —"Boogie Woogie" and "Naughty Alouette"—to go. . . . "All officers of the West Coast Studio Warner Club, who successfully have served the organization for several years, recently were unanimously re-elected at a governors' meeting," according to a dispatch from the Warner publicity headquarters, none of them, evidently, being tired old clubmen.

•

Columbia has signed Warner Baxter for another group of "Crime Doctor" pictures. . . . M-G-M has signed Edward G. Robinson for a principal role in "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes." . . . Harry A. Gourfam, New York stage producer, is to make "Murder in Spades," described as a mystery melodrama with music, for PRC. . . . Kathleen O'Malley, daughter of Pat, the star of silent films, has been given a term contract by Universal and started in "Salome—Where She Danced."

Rep. Signs FP-C

TORONTO, Oct. 8.—Republic has closed with Famous Players-Canadian for its 1944-45 product.

'Years' Stands Out in L. A. With $49,000

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 8.—"Impatient Years" stood out among the openers in a week of fair weather, getting $49,000 in the Pantages-Hill Street tandem which averages $36,400. "Seventh Cross" was strong in FWC's Chinese-Fox, Wilshire-Loew's, State-Uptown setting, collecting $71,900 against a $61,850 average. "Wilson" moved from the Carthay Circle and United Artists to continuous run at the Four Star after seven weeks and six days.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 4:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $11,250. (Average: $11,200).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,500).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
FOX - WILSHIRE — (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,750).
"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
"Dead Man's Eyes" (Univ.)
HAWAII — (1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,200).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $19,700).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $32,500. (Average: $24,100).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES — (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $14,900).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $16,700).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (HOLLYWOOD)—(1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (DOWNTOWN) — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,700).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS — (2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $16,600).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $10,500).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (HOLLYWOOD) — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,812. (Average: $17,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (DOWNTOWN) — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,560. (Average: $18,700)
"Arsenic and Old Lace (WB)
WARNER BROS. (WILTERN) (2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,594. (Average: $15,200).

Goldstein to Monogram

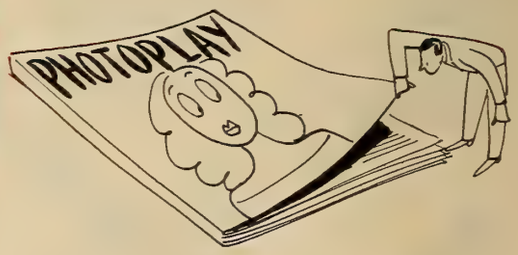
BOSTON, Oct. 8.—Harry Goldstein, for the past 20 years associated with M. and P. and Paramount-Publix in this territory, has been named promotion and public relations head for Monogram here, to handle New England.

McDonnell Branch Head

Grover McDonnell, former salesman with Republic in Dallas, has been named manager of the Monogram branch in Oklahoma City.

PREVIEW

OF THE CINEMA'S FASTEST SELLING MAGAZINE



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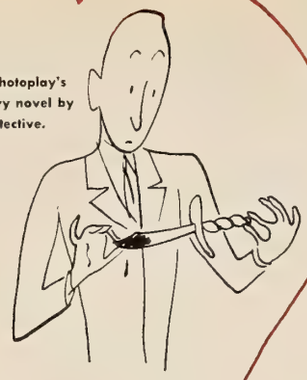
November

ADVANCE COPY

JUDY GARLAND
BY PAUL HESSE

BOB WALKER TALKS ABOUT JENNIFER JONES to Louella O. Parsons

See Over—for preview of Photoplay's 31 November features.



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JENNIFER JONES from the man who knows her best, in a scoop-exclusive by Louella.

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Bob Walker Talks about Jennifer Jones ..... *Louella O. Parsons* 30
If My Daughter Were Seventeen ..... *Frank Sinatra* 32
Crime on My Hands ..... *George Sanders* 34
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Your problems answered by Claudette Colbert

ROY ROGERS—another Delehanty gem for Roy's fabulous fans.

PEARL S. BUCK—a Photoplay exclusive in her first for any motion picture magazine.

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PAUL HESSE's cover portrait of Judy Garland that almost breathes!

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GLORIA DE HAVEN—inimitable character portrait by inimitable Waterbury.

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PHOTOPLAY America's FIRST America's OLDEST America's BEST

Studios Have 52 Shooting; Six New Ones

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—Production remained steady last week, as work was started on six features and four others were completed. At the week's end the production index stood at 52. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Lawless Empire," with Charles Starrett, Mildred Law, John Calvert, Bob Wills & Band; "Let's Go Steady," with Pat Parrish, Jackie Moran, June Preisser, Arnold Stang, Skinnay Ennis & Band.

Shooting: "Eadie Was a Lady," 'Counterattack," 'Together Again."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Hold High the Torch," "Women's Army, "Thrill of a Romance," "The Clock," "Son of Lassie," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Finished: "Saddle Pals."

Shooting: "G. I. Honeymoon."

Paramount

Shooting: "Duffy's Tavern," "High Man," 'Salty O'Rourke," 'Miss Susie Slagle's."

PRC

Started: "You Can't Stop Romance," with Kay Aldridge, Dave O'Brien, Smith Ballew, Isobel Randolph; "His Brother's Ghost," with Buster Crabbe and Al St. John.

Shooting: "Strange Illusion."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Come Share My Love," "China Sky," "Experiment Perilous," "Zombies on Broadway," "Isle of the Dead" (suspended), "It's a Pleasure" (International), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn), "Tarzan and the Amazons" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "Lake Placid Serenade."

Started: "The Vampire's Ghost," with John Abbott, Peggy Stewart, Grant Withers, Charles Gordon, Adele Mara.

Shooting: "Chicago Kid," "Topeka Terror," "Hitchhike to Happiness," "The Great Flamarion" (William Wilder).

20th-Fox

Started: "Bon Voyage," with Jeanne Crain, Aubrey Smith, Joan Blondell, Lynn Bari.

Shooting: "Czarina," "Where Do We Go From Here?" "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," "Hangover Square," "Nob Hill."

United Artists

Finished: "Brewster's Millions" (Small).

Shooting: "Hold Autumn in Your Hand," (PAC), "Delightfully Dangerous" (Rogers) (formerly "High Among the Stars); "It's in the Bag" (Skirball).

Universal

Shooting: "Fairy Tale Murder," "The Suspect," "Salome—Where She Danced," "Frisco Sal."

Warner

Started: "The Big Sleep," with Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bachall.

Shooting: "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Of Human Bondage," "Nobody Lives Forever," "San Antonio."

Independent

Shooting: "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" (W. R. Frank).

Finished: "Wildfire" (Action Pictures).

Mexican Business Up 50%: Pratchett

Arthur L. Pratchett, Paramount manager for Central America, who arrived here recently for home office conferences, said in an interview at the weekend that theatre business in Mexico today is approximately 50 per cent above what it was three years ago. Mexico now has 79 theatres with an average seating capacity of 2,500 and an average admission charge of 60 cents to $1. Mexican films, together with the Spanish pictures made in the Argentine, occupy 50 to 70 per cent of the playing time, while the 375 films of the United States take the balance of the time, Pratchett said. Mexico is now producing 65-70 features annually at a cost of $70,000 each.

No dubbed films have as yet been shown in Mexico, he said. Other business in Central America is up some 10 to 20 per cent over pre-war years, but has been most noticeable in places such as Panama, Puerto Rico and Trinidad, where Army bases have been built, he reported. Here the average pay before the U. S. entered was $1 a day and has since been raised to $4 daily. English, as a language, is being spoken more and more by the better class in all countries south of the border.

Pratchett will be in New York for 10 days before returning to Mexico City, his home base. Among other things he will discuss post-war plans with Paramount home office executives.

SOPEG Contests I. A. on Rep. Help

The Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, has contested the IATSE representation of the office employes of the Republic New York film exchange. At a hearing before the State Labor Relations Board at the weekend, Local 109 and Local F-51 of the IATSE agreed to a collective bargaining election to be held sometime in December.

Local F-51's contract covering these Republic employes expires Nov. 30. SOPEG has contracts with Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Columbia, covering their New York exchanges, while Local F-51 of the IATSE has contracts with the other film companies including Republic.

Three in 20th-Fox 8th Block in Nov.

Twentieth Century-Fox's eighth block for 1944-45 will be released in November and will include "Laura," "Something for the Boys" and a British production, "The Way Ahead."

Trade Show 'St. Louis'

M-G-M will hold tradeshowings of "Meet Me In St. Louis" in all exchange centers on Oct. 31. The picture will be included in the company's 10th block and released generally about New Year's. A world premiere is planned for St. Louis sometime in November, at Loew's Theatre.

Appoint 18 State Chairmen to 6th War Loan Campaign

(*Continued from page* 1)

lowing his acceptance, Kingsberg said he will soon announce his committee which will operate in this area covering the 14 down-state counties of New York.

Among the other state chairmen appointed were the following: from Maine, Connie Russell, of Bangor; Vermont, Frank Vennett, Rutland; New Hampshire, Ed Fahey, Manchester; Massachusetts, Sam Pinanski, Boston; Connecticut, Harry Shaw, New Haven; Upstate New York, C. J. Latta, Albany; Northern New Jersey, Harry Lowenstein and Frank Damis, Newark; Southern New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania, Ben Fertel, Philadelphia; Western Pennsylvania, M. A. Silver, Pittsburgh.

Also, from Delaware, A. Joseph Defiore, Wilmington; Maryland, Frank Durkee, Baltimore; Washington, D. C., Hardie Meaken; Virginia, Morton G. Thalheimer, Richmond; West Virginia, Sol Hyman, Huntington; North Carolina, George T. Carpenter, Valdese, and Wisconsin, Harold Fitzgerald, Milwaukee.

All state chairmen have already signified their acceptance and are now planning for local meetings with their various committees.

Fitzgerald Sets Wisconsin Meeting for Today

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 8.—Following his acceptance as Wisconsin state chairman, Harold J. Fitzgerald wired national chairman Harry Brandt, "We are arranging to have a 'kick-off' meeting on the Sixth War Loan campaign with members of the War Activities Committee of Wisconsin Oct. 9." "As a keynote of the meeting," Fitzgerald said, "we are honoring the oldest independent exhibitor in this territory by inviting as special guests a list of 25 exhibitors who knew him 'when'. We are then going to appoint him honorary chairman and are putting his name on our special stationery.

Tom Baily Will Be Liaison With Treasury on Drive

Tom Baily, executive director of the California Theatre Council and associate co-ordinator with John Flinn of the War Activities Committee, Hollywood Division, will arrive in New York from Hollywood today to act as liaison for the industry with the War Finance Committee during the Sixth War Loan Drive, and later will make his headquarters in Washington with Ted R. Gamble, National War Finance Director.

RKO-Loew's to Shift Films in Shortage

Shortage of available product has led RKO to book M-G-M's "Maisie Goes to Reno" and United Artists' "The Hairy Ape" into its Albee Theatre in Brooklyn, two films which would ordinarily go to the Loew's circuit in the customary product split-up between the two circuits in the New York area.

Loew's officials are understood to have cooperated in releasing the films for the Albee. They will play the remainder of the Loew circuit in the metropolitan area, however.

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(Of "Candlelight in Algeria")

with

HUGH WILLIAMS MICHAEL WILDING

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•

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•

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•

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 70 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Asks NWLB Studio Strike Intervention

Ruddy Acts as Attempt At Conciliation Fails

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Commissioner Earl Ruddy, through the Federal Labor Conciliation Service, today moved to carry the union jurisdictional fight involving the Conference of Studio Unions and the American Federation of Labor to the National War Labor Board for intervention.

This decision followed the failure of the dissident groups to arrive at any conclusion this morning in a meeting at Ruddy's quarters in the Federal

(*Continued on page* 10)

24 Million Feet of Raw Stock Lost

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Vacations and the annual clean-up of raw film stock manufacturing machinery cost the photographic industry about 24,000,000 square feet of film in the third quarter, it was disclosed today by the War Production Board.

Reaching a new all-time record production of almost 160,000,000 square feet in the second quarter, output dropped to 136,000,000 square feet in the suceeding three months, the Board reported.

Board officials estimated that 85 per

(*Continued on page* 11)

U. S. Supreme Court Upholds Theatre Law

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 9.—Refusing to review a decision of the New York Supreme Courts, under which damages were assessed against the 46th Street Theatre for refusing to honor a purchased ticket, the Supreme Court today in effect affirmed the validity of the New York State Civil Rights Law. The suit was of indirect interest to exhibitors in New York because of the challenge of the law by the theatre on the ground that it was discriminatory in that it applied to legitimate theatres, but not to motion picure houses and certain other types of amusements.

The Court today began the hearing of arguments on cases before it and is expected to reach the Crescent Amusement Company appeals in about 10 days.

Treasury Says U. S. Theatre Tax Not as High as England's

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—The Treasury Department today issued a comparative analysis of English and American admission taxes, showing that the former range as high as five times as much as is imposed on tickets in this country. The English taxes start at 1-half penny on a three-cent admission, translated by the Department to one cent on a five-cent ticket, and in two instances, at the 50-cent and 83½-cent levels, reach 100 per cent.

"Entertainments chargeable at the full rates, except the very cheapest, are subject to a duty in the United Kingdom two to five times as high as in the United States," the Department

(*Continued on page* 4)

Cowdin Heads Films In N. Y. Fund Drive

J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of directors of Universal, is heading the motion picture industry section of the commerce and industry division of the New York War Fund's unified appeal for 31 member agencies, including the USO, United Seamen's Service and War Prisoners' Aid. The commerce and industry division's quota of $12,130,000 is a 10 per cent increase over last year in the city-wide campaign to raise $17,200,000.

Richard W. Lawrence, president of Bankers Commercial Corp., who is chairman of this year's drive, has ap-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Court May Approve Schine Sale Oct. 16

Buffalo, Oct. 9.—Sale of the State and Appalachia theatres, Appalachia, Virginia; the Viv Theatre, Corbin, Kentucky, and the Liberty Theatre, Pikesville, Kentucky, by the Schine Circuit to A. C. Hayman under the temporary order of the Federal Court will be confirmed by Federal Judge John C. Knight here on Oct. 16, unless prior to that time sufficient reasons appear to the court why confirmation should be refused, according to an order made by Judge Knight today, following a hearing in chambers.

Business is Dull Along Broadway; Set 5 New Films

Business on Broadway is generally dull this week with few houses reporting outstanding grosses comparable to those of the past few months. However, with the arrival of five new films this week, the situation is expected to be improved.

The new arrivals are consigned to Radio City Music Hall, Roxy, Hollywood, Paramount and Criterion. "Casanova Brown" will wind up a four-week run at the Music Hall tomorrow night with about $96,000 for the fourth and final week, based on the $64,000 taken in the first four days through Sunday night. M-G-M's "Mrs. Park-

(*Continued on page* 11)

See Theatre Equipment Innovations

New Carbon, Improved Projector Forthcoming

By SAM HONIGBERG

CHICAGO, Oct. 9.—Manufacturers of theatre equipment promised new and revolutionary items, for theatres after the war at the annual convention of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association which closed its three-day meet at the Bismarck Hotel here yesterday. During a three-hour "exchange of postwar ideas" conference yesterday between manufacturers and dealers, E. Allen Williford, manager of the Carbon Sales Division, National Carbon Co., revealed the firm will have a new and

(*Continued on page* 10)

Depinet Sets 41 on 6th War Loan Drive

Ned E. Depinet, chairman of the distribution division in the Sixth War Loan Drive, yesterday announced the line-up of his committee of 41 members in 31 key cities. Distribution chairmen in the following districts are:

Metropolitan: Jack Bowen, Loew's, district chairman, with Ralph Pielow for New York and B. Abner for New Jersey. Northeastern: A. M. Kane, Paramount, district chairman and the following Paramount men in his area; New Haven, John Moore; Albany,

(*Continued on page* 11)

Businessmen Seek Visas for Europe

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Eric Johnston, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, has proposed to Secretary of State Cordell Hull that American businessmen be permitted as rapidly as possible to go to liberated areas of Europe which are no longer combat zones.

Hull's reply, some advisers say,

(*Continued on page* 4)

20th-Fox Executives to Attend Willkie Rites Today; Offices to Close at 1 P. M.

Twentieth Century-Fox's offices here will close at 1 P. M. today in deference to Wendell L. Willkie, former board chairman, who died early Sunday morning of a heart condition induced by a streptococcic infection, with many executives expected to attend funeral services at 3 P. M. at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Company exchanges will close between three and four o'clock today throughout the country. National Theatres' offices will observe two-minutes of silence today in tribute to Willkie.

Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, and Tom Connors, vice-president, are scheduled to arrive by plane from the Coast in time to attend services. Murray Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign sales, in a wire from Hollywood, said: "The passing of Wendell Willkie will be mourned all over the world by all those who cherish freedom and liberty."

Other company executives who paid tributes to Willkie included, besides Skouras and Silverstone, Connors, Joseph M. Schenck, Darryl F. Zanuck, and Charles Skouras. On the Coast, all studios will cease activities for five minutes at 11:45 a.m. today.

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "The Woman in the Window," RKO, and "They Live in Fear," Columbia, will be found on page 5; and "Bluebeard," PRC, on page 11.

Settle E. Orange Anti-Trust Case

The long pending anti-trust action brought by the East Orange Amusement Co. against Warner Bros. and other distributors, has been amicably settled and the action has been discontinued with releases being exchanged. The defendants had at all times denied liability and it is pointed out that the settlement is in no way an admission of any liability or wrongdoing.

The action differed from the usual anti-trust action in that the East Orange Amusement Co. brought the suit in its capacity as the owner of the real estate, as distinguished from an exhibitor. The distributors had moved to dismiss the complaint upon the ground that the realty owner, as such, had no standing to bring an action under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, but the court sustained the East Orange Amusement's complaint.

Conspiracy Charged

East Orange Amusement had charged the distributors with a conspiracy whereby the various lessees of the theatre were unable to obtain product with the result that the owner of the theatre was unable to maintain it profitably and had lost the property under foreclosure. The defendants against whom the action was brought were the eight major companies; and Moe, Joe and Myron Kridell, who had owned and operated a competing theatre and who had at one time been the lessees of the East Orange Amusement's theatre. Their action was settled and East Orange Amusement alleged that under the terms of the settlement the Kridells had been able to make an arrangement under which they received product in their own competing theatre and the East Orange Amusement's theatre was left without product.

Alvin T. Sapinsley, attorney, arranged the settlement for East Orange Amusement.

No Boost in Scales For 'Creek': Reagan

"Frenchman's Creek," will be exhibited at regular admission scales, Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, announced today. It is planned to give the production day-and-day openings as a Christmas holiday attraction in key cities, with pre-release engagements in several centers.

Reagan said the response on the part of the public and exhibitors to the regular price policy of "Going My Way" has demonstrated the soundness of this policy.

Award for WB 'Boats'

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 9.—The commandant of the local Naval District, for the U. S. Navy will present a scroll to Warners for its two-reel film, "Devil Boats," story of P-T boats, at an invitation premiere of the picture at the St. Louis Theatre late this month.

Personal Mention

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, returned to his office yesterday from Narragansett, R. I.

•

HOWARD BURKHARDT, manager of Loew's State, Cleveland, visited last week in Baltimore with his son, DANIEL, recently inducted into the U. S. Marine Corps.

•

WILSON TURNER, brother of JOHNNY TURNER, film booker and buyer for the Warner circuit in Philadelphia, has joined the Universal exchange there.

•

RUFUS BLAIR of the Paramount publicity office is in Cleveland visiting film editors of metropolitan newspapers there.

•

FRANK J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal Southern and Canadian sales manager, is in Atlanta conferring with R. B. WILBY and W. K. JENKINS.

•

ROBERT PAIGE, Universal script writer, arrived in New York yesterday for a few days' visit. He is accompanied by his wife.

•

DAVID COPLAN, United Artists acting managing director in Great Britain, is back from Hollywood.

•

RODNEY BUSH, 20th Century-Fox exploitation manager, returned here yesterday from Omaha and Chicago.

•

PHIL REISMAN, RKO vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, has arrived in Rio de Janeiro.

•

A. W. SMITH, JR., 20th-Fox Eastern division manager, is expected to return here from Dallas on Friday.

•

HARRY WEISS has been named to handle 20th Century-Fox exploitation in the Cleveland territory.

•

LESTER B. ISAAC, Loew's projection and sound head, is visiting Loew theatres in Ohio this week.

•

BENEDICT BOGEAUS, United Artists producer, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

JACK L. WARNER and CHARLES EINFELD are expected in New York from the Coast on Friday.

•

ARTHUR W. KELLY, president of Eagle-Lion, will leave tomorrow for Detroit to attend the Silver Anniversary banquet of Allied Theatres of Michigan.

•

MARILYN LANDERS, 14-year-old daughter of GEORGE LANDERS, city manager for E. M. Loew's Theatres in Hartford, is a patient at the New Britain General hospital.

•

WILLIAM A. JOHNSTON, former publisher of *Motion Picture News*, is recuperating from injuries sustained when he was struck by an automobile in Los Angeles.

•

WALTER BROOKS, assistant to H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M's exhibitor relations head, left New York over the weekend to attend the Allied of Michigan convention in Detroit.

•

TED TOD, Warners' publicity chief in Chicago, is a patient at St. Luke's hospital in that city where he is recovering from a back injury.

•

JOSEPH QUITTNER, co-owner of the Quittner and Perakos circuit in Connecticut, was an East Hartford visitor recently.

•

JOSEPH FELDMAN, assistant zone manager for Warner Theatres in the Pittsburgh territory, has returned to that city from New York.

•

E. H. KLEINERT and IRVING VESHEL, PRC producers, are en route to New York from the Coast.

•

MARGARET ETTINGER, Hollywood publicist, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

LESTER COWAN arrived in New York from Washington yesterday and left for the Coast last night.

•

IRVING RAPPER, Warner director, will leave here for Hollywood this week.

Col. Asks Dismissal Of 35 Million Suit

BOSTON, Oct. 9.—Louis Froblich, Columbia attorney, has arrived here from New York to argue for the dismissal of an alleged plagiarism action against the company by Edwin N. Brody, author of the unproduced play, "Against the Law." Brody contends that Columbia infringed portions of his play in no less than 24 pictures, and is seeking damages computed to be between $35,000,000 and $50,000,000.

Frohlich will ask Judge George C. Sweeny of the District Court to dismiss the action, claiming the plaintiff has not shown that Columbia ever had any access to his work.

Harry Ball Sues on First-Run Rights

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 9.—Trial of the suit brought by Harry Norman Ball, Philadelphia trustee, involving the Penn Theatre, Ambridge, has opened here. The question of whether or not the Penn Theatre shall continue as a first run is to be determined in a non-jury trial which will be presided over by Federal Judge F. P. Scoonmaker.

Balls claims that following the expiration of his contract with distributors, the Penn was offered second or third run pictures. First run was sold to the State Theatre nearby. The action, he charged, was in violation of the Sherman and Clayton anti-trust acts.

The Season's Surprise Hit!
"MY PAL, WOLF"
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SHARYN MOFFETT
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IN PERSON
THE ANDREWS SISTERS
MITCHELL AYRES AND HIS BAND.
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★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"MUSIC IN MANHATTAN"
ANNE SHIRLEY DENNIS DAY
PHILIP TERRY

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
'HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO'
EDDIE BRACKEN
ELLA RAINES
IN PERSON
Willie HOWARD
America's Great Character Comic
ADDED ATTRACTION
PHIL BRITO
Radio's Newest Singing Sensation

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WENDELL L. WILLKIE

Chairman of the Board

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX FILM CORPORATION

In Memoriam

October 8th, 1944

U. S. Raw Stock To Canada Troops

American distributors have agreed to make available enough 16 mm. raw stock to supply the film wants of Canadian troops stationed in Great Britain, it has been learned here. The Canadians were previously supplied from England, and when the British War Ministry disclosed that it could not allocate any more stock, a supply was sought from New York. Joseph Friedman, chairman of the War Activities Committee in London and Columbia's manager in Great Britain, participated in the discussions here.

To Discuss Theatre Video at SMPE Meet

Ralph B. Austrian, RKO television head, will discuss the economic aspects of theatre television at the 56th semi-annual technical conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers which will get underway at the Hotel Pennsylvania here next Monday and continue until Wednesday. Technical developments and economic considerations relating to theatre television will occupy a prominent place as subjects of discussion at the conference.

Also due for thoroughgoing consideration, according to a tentative list of papers scheduled by Barton Kreuzer, chairman of the papers committee, are the production and expanding use of 16mm. motion pictures, and the latest advances in sound recording, film processing, lighting, and equipment. Highlights of the conference will be the announcement of winners of the society's Journal Award and its Progress Medal for 1944 and the presentation of these awards at an informal dinner-dance, Tuesday evening, Oct. 17. Newly-elected officers for 1945 also will be announced at that time.

The tentative program announced by William C. Kunzmann includes morning and afternoon technical sessions.

Says U. S. Tax Not As High as England's

(*Continued from page* 1)

reported. "For instance, the average admission charge to a motion picture theatre in the United States is about 32 cents, upon which the federal tax is six cents, but in the United Kingdom a comparable admission charge would be taxed at 21½ cents." However, information available in other quarters in Washington indicates that the average admission charge in England is in the 10½-pence to one-shilling bracket, or from 17½ to 21 cents, on which the tax is 14 cents, or 67 to 80 per cent. No analysis was made of the impact of the Canadian admission tax, which is 20 per cent, the same as in this country.

Ed Kuykendall, MPTO president, warned exhibitors recently that the Treasury still is endeavoring to have a 30 per cent Federal admissions tax enacted.

Hollywood Hold on Latin Market Insecure: Golden

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Technical weaknesses in American feature pictures and failure to furnish films in the native languages or with backgrounds or themes of Latin American interest are the major drawbacks to wholehearted acceptance of Hollwyood's product in Central and South America, it is indicated in a report on those markets by Nathan D. Golden, chief of the motion picture unit of the Department Commerce.

The report, second of a series which will cover the world with the exception of the Axis countries, deals with conditions in 25 countries south of the United States, having a total of 6,848 theatres with a seating capacity for 4,085,172 persons, in which American pictures constitute 80 per cent of all features shown.

Door Left Open

That the industry's failure to cater more definitely to the more than 130,000,000 people in those countries has left the door open to competition which in postwar years may become an important factor is demonstrated by the 121 pictures produced in Latin America in 1942, which were highly popular. Sixty of the pictures were produced in Mexico and 56 in Argentina; both countries have large spheres of influence, important with respect to Argentina, whose sympathies for years have been anti-democratic and whose films may reflect Nazi influences.

"American films are preferred by Latin American audiences because of the strong appeal exerted by our American film stars, our technical proficiency and the lavishness of our productions," it was declared by Amos E. Taylor, director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, in a foreword to the 201-page report. "The survey here presented discloses that films purchased in the studios of Mexico and Argentina are coming to constitute, today, rather potent competition. Films from these countries are produced in Spanish with native casts and are therefore more readily understood by motion-picture patrons in the rural centers who cannot easily follow the Spanish superimposed titles at the base of our English-dialog films.

"The importance to the American industry of maintaining this Latin American market as an outlet for its production cannot be over-emphasized, especially when one notes that 80 per cent of the films shown in that great area are of American make," the report says. "A continuance of this high percentage is obviously vital to the economics of the American motion-picture industry in the postwar era."

The report showed that American war pictures have not been too popular and there is much criticism of scenes in which American civil, military or navy personnel ridicule their own military and naval institutions, and on the whole "it is believed that the most effective propaganda influence that American films can exercise lies not in war pictures or 'good neighbor' pictures, but in providing high grade entertainment that at the same time interprets authentic American life and ideals."

Dubbing Foremost

"The consensus among the local distributors of American films is that the duplication of selected films in Spanish dialog with Spanish-speaking actors or, alternatively, dubbing would do more to increase the popularity of American films than any other factor," it was stated in a discussion of possible improvements. "Duplication would, of course, eliminate the advantage of already-popular stars, but it is believed that language is a considerably more important element. Some distributors feel that dubbing would not be well received by first-run audiences who would prefer the actors speak in their own tongue, but the reported relative success of previously shown dubbed pictures would indicate that such films would have a greater over-all popularity than 'titled' pictures."

Although either of these two practices would not pay if only one market were involved, it is pointed out that the usefulness of such films in the greater part of Latin America, particularly in the face of increasing Mexican and Argentine competition, would be a favorable factor, and the desirability of such a practice would be enhanced by the resultant increased effectiveness of propaganda, according to the report.

Harman to Produce Full-Length Films

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Hugh Harman, cartoon producer, intends concentrating future production on full-length features, using cartoon and live action combinations. "King Arthur," "Hollywood Merry-Go-Round" and "The Little Prince" are on his program. For the latter, he may have Orson Welles as co-producer. Current plan provides for 10 per cent cartoon technique and the remainder live action on "King Arthur."

Branton Raises $225,000

DES MOINES, Oct. 9.—G. Ralph Branton, general manager of Tri-States Theatre Corp., here, has raised a total of $225,000 as chairman of a voluntary committee to provide funds for a new nurses' home at Mercy Hospital.

RKO to Send 140 Christmas Boxes

RKO will send about 140 Christmas packages to former employes now serving in the armed forces. The project is financed by a joint fund to which present employes and the company contribute voluntarily.

Each box this year will include two cartons of cigarettes, fruit cake, candy, cookies, tooth paste, shaving utensils for the men and cosmetics for the women. This year marks the third Christmas service mailing for the company.

Shedding His Worries?

DES MOINES, Oct. 9.—After 20 years consecutive service with RKO here, Bob Leach, booker, will leave Oct. 14 to take over operation of the Moulton Theatre, Moulton, Ia., which he recently purchased.

$50,000 Raised at Roosevelt Dinner

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Although the final tally is not yet available, the Hollywood Democratic Committee today anticipated that campaign contributions raised at the dinner in the Ambassador Hotel here on Sunday under the auspices of the "Hollywood Is for Roosevelt" committee will reach $50,000.

Approximately $17,500 goes to the Columbia Broadcasting System for radio time divded over 19 station from Denver west. Over 1,000 persons attended, including many prominent figures aligned with the Roosevelt candidacy.

Contributing $1,000 each were Samuel Goldwyn, Walter Wanger, Charles Einfeld, Joan Crawford, Mervyn LeRoy, Al Jolson, William Morris and Mrs. William Goetz. Jack Warner contributed $2,000, while Claudette Colbert, Otto Preminger, Allen Rivkin, Arthur Lyons, Arthur Schwartz, Harry Tugend and Sol Lesser pledged smaller sums.

A star-studded show followed the broadcast by Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes.

Stagehands Hit on Theatre Practice

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 9.—The St. Louis *Star-Times* has commented editorially on the demand of the AF of L International Association of Stagehands that St. Louis motion picture theatres employ more stagehands than they need. The union dispute is being heard here by Jules Kohn of Kansas City, a Regional Labor Board arbitrator.

The *Star-Times* said in part: "At a War Labor Board hearing here the other day the director of a theatre company repeated the old charge that he is forced to employ more stagehands than he needs. No union can afford to ignore the difference between an honest job at the best possible wages to be secured through collective bargaining and the employment of coercion to collect a pay check for a man who has not earned it. One policy commands public respect and support. The other arouses public indignation."

Boston Officers Are Elected by WB Club

BOSTON, Oct. 9.—At a meeting held by the local Warner Club new officers of the organization were elected. They are: Helen Dwer, president; Nellie McLaughlin, vice-president in charge of entertainment; Harold Kritzman, vice-president in charge of welfare; Warren Gates, vice-president in charge of membership; Virginia Halpin, secretary, and Lester Miller, treasurer.

Businessmen Seek Visas for Europe

(*Continued from page* 1)

may stress the need for admitting American, British and other Allied business representatives on a basis of equal opportunity, and also may note that the immediate decision on when any businessman may go to Europe is up to Allied military authorities. As soon as the military has given the word, State Department officials say there will be no barriers in the way of issuing passports.

'Old Lace' Doubles Cincinnati Par

CINCINNATI, Oct. 9.—"Arsenic and Old Lace" is heading for double average with a $13,000 gross on a moveover week at RKO's Grand, and "Marriage Is a Private Affair" will do an approximate $14,000 at RKO's Palace.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 11-14:

"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, pulled for world premiere of "An American Romance"). Gross: $11,000. (Average: 7 days, $13,500).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70) 7 days, 3rd week, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).
"The Last Horseman" (Col.)
"Danger in the Air" (Popular)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,400).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, plus a Saturday midnight show, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $6,500).
"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
"The Great Moment" (Para.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7days, 2nd week, moveover from the Grand. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

Lavery Unopposed For SWG Presidency

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Emmet Lavery is expected to be the next president of the Screen Writers Guild in a contest which thus far becomes unchallenged by the withdrawal of Lester Cole, incumbent, as opposition. Cole assumed the presidency pro tem after Mary C. McCall, Jr., had retired in expectant motherhood. The elections will be held at SWG's annual meeting Nov. 8.

The three vice-presidents will be determined by the highest vote accorded six candidates who are: Hugo Butler, Oliver H. P. Garrett, James Hilton, Talbot Jennings, Ring Lardner, Jr., and Betty Reinhardt. Richard Collins and Howard Estabrook are contestants for secretary and Jordan Kahn and Michael Kanin, for treasurer.

Write-in candidates for any post are possible by petition bearing names of 25 guild members if submitted to the nominating committee not later than Oct. 19.

Petrillo Pensive

CHICAGO, Oct. 9.—James Caesar Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, and the union's executive board went into closed sessions today to consider President Roosevelt's request that they drop their ban on making phonograph recordings for commercial use. Petrillo said after the meeting that they were giving the matter "careful consideration."

W. E. Now TBA Member

Television Broadcasters Assn. board of directors have approved the application of Western Electric for an affiliated membership in TBA, it was announced here yesterday.

Reviews

"The Woman in the Window"

(*International-RKO*)

Hollywood, Oct. 9

FIRST it was "Casanova Brown." Now it's "The Woman in the Window." Two goals—hand-running—for Messrs. Goetz and Spitz and their International Pictures.

The second of their four in 1944-45 for RKO Radio is a corker. A murder yarn, but not a mystery, Nunnally Johnson's original story and production start on the leisurely side, build suspense early and, what's more to the point, sustain that suspense as a thriving, dramatic equation all the way.

The attraction, moreover, is astutely constructed with a surprise twist which some audiences may suspect, but which most in all probability will not, so well is it directed and treated. The twist enters in the last five minutes when the fact is established that the terrifying experience through which Edward G. Robinson has passed was a dream. Therefore, if exhibitors somehow can manage the always difficult persuasion of having audience see "The Woman in the Window" from its beginning, greater satisfaction undoubtedly will result.

Robinson plays a college professor whose family is off to a Maine vacation. He and his club cronies, Edmond Breon as a doctor and Raymond Massey as a district attorney, are attracted by the portrait of a woman which hangs in the window of an adjacent art gallery. After-dinner conversation finds the men discussing crime and Massey explaining how police history reveals incidents, innocent in themselves, have been known to lead to murder. Unware of the impact of the conversation on his subconscious mind, Robinson falls asleep in a chair, but asks an attendant to awaken him later. The attendant does this, and the audience sees him in the process.

Then the story unfolds. Drawn to the portrait, Robinson discovers its living counterpart by his side. Alone and lonesome, he buys Joan Bennett a drink, later goes to her apartment in inspection of further art sketches. Her lover arrives in a towering rage, begins to throttle Robinson. With a convenient scissors slipped into his hand by the excited girl, Robinson stabs his attacker to death. The remainder of the plot outlines in gripping detail their method of hiding the crime and disposing of the body and how the police net begins to close in. Finding no way out, Robinson deliberately takes an overdose of medicine and dies. As he falls off into what is presumably his final sleep, the attendant awakens him and the dream motive thereby is established.

This sketchy story framework perforce bypasses many touches which effective writing by Johnson and deft direction by Fritz Lang have blended into the attraction. Many clever bits of treatment are interspersed throughout the footage, and believable ones at that. An asset of strength to the whole is the excellence of the small cast. Miss Bennett as the loose lady, and Robinson, as the bewildered and innocently trapped professor, come through with performances which rank among their best. Assistance in lesser roles by Massey, Breon, Dan Duryea and Arthur Loft is always competent.

Running time, 99 minutes. No release date set. "G."*

RED KANN

"They Live in Fear"

(*Columbia*)

SLIGHT variations on a now rather routine theme are the basis of Columbia's new approach to the Nazi terror in "They Live in Fear." It lends itself easily to exploitation and will probably bring a healthy return at the boxoffice since the customers will be Nazi-conscious for some time to come. It is not an artistic piece, but it has a certain amount of emotional appeal, and it says and shows the things the average American likes. It is not an atrocity film. It is youth fighting Fascism and, as such, holds something special for the younger audiences. Chief fault of the film lies in the slump in pace, which comes about half-way through and from which the production never quite recovers.

The story follows a young German, Clifford Severn, from his days in Hitler's youth movement through his escape to the U. S. and his experiences in adjusting himself to a free life in a small American town. In high school he learns about American democracy from Otto Kruger, the principal, and Pat Parrish, the pretty and understanding head of the Student Council. His only difficulties are caused by Jimmy Carpenter, a football hero, who resents the newcomer's popularity and plots a campaign against him which is climaxed with an unsuccessful attempt to discredit the boy before the entire community. In the end, however, Carpenter reforms and Severn becomes the whole town's hero.

Josef Berne directed with a moderate amount of imagination. Kruger is excellent as the kindly school principal and Severn, Miss Parrish and Carpenter turn in capable performances. Script was written by Michael L. Simmons and Sam Ornitz from Wilfrid Pettit's story. Jack Fier produced.

Running time, 65 mins. "G" *.

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Equity Aids Servicemen

Actors Equity's council has approved a resolution removing back debts to the organization of members now in service. The resolution also suspends dues of discharged servicemen for one year.

Montgomery to M-G-M

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Lt. Commander Robert Montgomery, placed on the Navy inactive list, is expected to resume his career under a M-G-M contract, but studio plans thus far are indefinite, it was learned today.

Skouras Helps Ball Player See Series

St. Louis, Oct. 9.—Through the generosity of George Skouras, former St. Louisan and head of Skouras Theatres Corp., New York, Corporal Johnny Spillane, Waterbury, Conn., Marine who lost his pitching arm at Tarawa, witnessed the world series.

Corporal Spillane had a chance to sign up with the Cards two years ago, but chose instead to play in a bigger game, so he joined the Marines. When Skouras read of his desire to see the world series in a New York newspaper, he arranged for transportation and tickets.

World Series Crowds Boost St. L. Grosses

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 9.—World series crowds boosted attendance at first runs here this week. "Arsenic and Old Lace" at the Ambassador hit a "home run" for the week with an estimated $21,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending October 11:

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,700).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,700).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,900).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,900).
"Cry of the Werewolf" (Col.)
"The Soul of a Monster" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,100).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,100).
"The Last Ride" (WB)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $5,200).

Pittsburgh Gives 'SYWA' $32,000

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 9.—"Since You Went Away" took the lead this week in Pittsburgh with an estimated gross of $32,000 as it opened at the Penn.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2-6:

"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,500).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $21,700).
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000).
"The Soul of a Monster" (Col.)
"Cry of the Werewolf" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $3,400).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,350).

IT STARTS AT THE N. Y.

THE DATE IS

HUMPHREY

ADAPTED FROM *Ernest Hemingway's* "TO HAVE AN

with

WALTER BRENNAN · LAUREN BACALL · DOLORES MORAN · HOAGY

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

OCTOBER 11th

BOGART

HAVE NOT" Warners have it!

MICHAEL · A HOWARD HAWKS PRODUCTION Screen Play by Jules Furthman and William Faulkner JACK L. WARNER Executive Producer

RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
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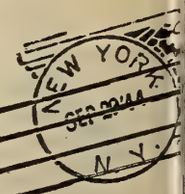

Mr. Samuel Goldwyn,
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SAMUEL GOLDWYN
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The Princess and the Pirate

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IN TECHNICOLOR

Directed by DAVID BUTLER · *Associate Producer* DON HARTMAN

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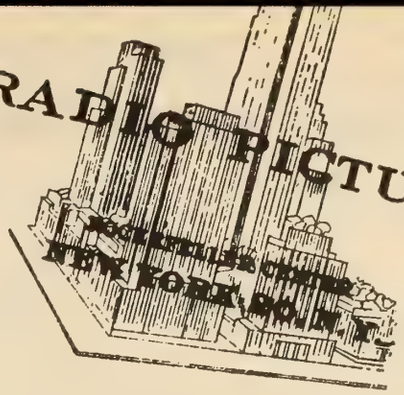

RADIO CITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Samuel Goldwyn,
7210 Santa Monica Blvd.,
Los Angeles, California.

September 29, 1944.

Dear Sam:

I am so enthusiastic over "THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE" that I'm spreading the word to every member of our sales organization. To quote from my message:

"Not only is it the best comedy Bob Hope ever appeared in, but it's also one of the greatest adventure dramas ever filmed. Besides laugh upon laugh, it's packed with action, thrills and romance -- and this unique blending of great comedy and colorful drama is something new to the screen.

"Bob Hope is positively terrific, and today he's at the very peak of his tremendous popularity. In lovely Virginia Mayo we have a new star bet who's bound to be big box-office. In fact, Samuel Goldwyn never demonstrated his genius for discovering stars more strikingly than he has in giving us this glamorous newcomer. Walter Slezak, Walter Brennan, Victor McLaglen and the others of the big cast are splendid, and Dave Butler's direction is something for the book.

" 'THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE' has been given the most lavish and spectacular production of any Goldwyn picture to date. It's packed with thrilling scenes of pirates and ships at sea and beautiful tropical islands--an atmosphere welcome to the screen at any time--and doubly attractive right now.

"All in all, it's Samuel Goldwyn's finest picture, and it will produce sensational box-office results far beyond anything we have ever encountered before."

You've given us a great show, Sam, and we're all highly enthused over its possibilities.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Ned

Ned E. Depinet

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 9.

IT looks like a busy winter for Armand Schaefer, executive producer at Republic. He is in charge of no less than 28 features, representing almost half the company's total product for the 1944-45 season. Three are currently in work; "Hitchhike to Happiness," a musical, and two melodramas "The Chicago Kid," and "The Vampire's Ghost." . . . Hillary Brooke has been signed by RKO for a major role in the Harriet Parsons production of "The Enchanted Cottage," which John Cromwell will direct. . . . Edmund L. Hartmann will write and produce "The Naughty Nineties," an Abbott and Costello comedy for Universal. . . . Regina Wallace has been signed for a role in "Pillar to Post," a comedy which is in work at Warners.

•

Lawrence Tierney, a cross-country runner turned actor, is to impersonate the late John Dillinger in the King Brothers' Monogram biography of that brigand.

•

Jack Benny and Rudy Vallee have been added to the cast of Jack Skirball's "It's in the Bag." . . . Options lifted: Dick Erdman's by Warner, Emory Parnell's by RKO Radio, and Adele Mara's by Republic. . . . John Calvert has been assigned to play the heavy in "Lawless Empire," latest of Columbia's "Durango Kid" series of Westerns. . . . Laurel and Hardy, perennially popular below the border, have received the "Good Neighbor" scroll awarded annually by the Rodriquez family of exhibitors. . . . June Horne has been signed by Paramount for "The Golden Years." . . . James Bell will have an important role in William Cagney's "Blood on the Sun." . . . Charles Barton will be the associate producer-director on "Men in Her Diary" at Universal.

•

Door Schary, Vanguard producer, is back from New York where he conferred with J. P. Marquard on the film version of "So Little Time." . . . Joseph Cotton is another returned traveler. . . . Leon Fromkees has acquired "King of Proxy Street" by Stanley Kauffmann for PRC. . . . Capt. Malcolm Brown, former M-G-M art director, has been retired from the Army and resumes his old duties Oct. 15. . . . Pandro S. Berman is vacationing in Oregon. Later, he goes East for the Broadway premiere of "Marriage Is a Private Affair."

West Virginia
Exhibitors—Managers—Guests
ATTEND THE
10th ANNUAL CONVENTION
DANIEL BOONE HOTEL
CHARLESTON, W. VA.
Oct. 17th
No Reg. fee and free Banquet
Plate to paid up members
W. VA. MANAGERS ASSOCIATION
J. C. Shanklin, Convention Chairman

Asks NWLB Intervention In Studio Union Deadlock

(Continued from page 1)

building. The meeting was held behind closed doors, punctuated by shouting audible to reporters in an outside room.

At the morning meeting Walsh flatly charged the walkout was an "illegal strike," adding that the IATSE "always lived up to the rules." Casey repeated that the producers continue to be willing to fit into any legal procedure evolved. Decorators failed to report at Warners this morning. Painters and machinists were pulled out this afternoon.

If the NWLB determines upon intervention under the law it can order the set decorators, machinists and painters, whose spokesmen maintain they have walked off their jobs but have not struck, to return to their posts pending an election to determine where the jurisdiction lies.

Herbert Sorrell, CSU president, and Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, both state that they are willing to hold an election "if it can be done quickly." Those familiar with NWLB procedure and its docket, however, were disinclined to credit possibility that speedy action can be forthcoming. Ruddy, therefore, determined to wire his headquarters in San Francisco, presenting the facts of the impasse and asking advice on calling the NWLB into the fracas.

Others Present

Present at the unsuccessful conference were Pat Casey, labor representative for the studios; D. T. Wayne, president of the Machinists' Union; Ed Mussa, secretary of the Set Decorators Union; Carl Cooper, International vice-president of IATSE; "Cappy" Duval, business agent of the Property Craftsmen's Union, Local 44, and Frank C. Mauritzen and John Lyon, representing the WLB, but who insisted they attended only as "observers." It is believed, however, that they will play an increasingly significant role in the dispute and final settlement.

Henry Ginsberg stated that the walkout thus far is not affecting current Paramount production but conceded that shooting will be impaired soon if the condition continues unresolved.

Columbia's production is likewise unimpaired, but the pinch will be felt by the middle of the week if the walkout continues, a spokesman for that studio said today.

At M-G-M, production is likewise so far unaffected, but a studio spokesman said continuation of the strike would delay the start of new pictures that have been planned. Universal anticipates a walkout tomorrow.

Tomorrow, also, Ruddy expects word on NWLB action. None had been received up until a late hour tonight.

3 Washington Agencies Watching Developments

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Officials of three agencies were closely watching developments in the Hollywood strike situation today, but so far Washington has not been asked to assist in the settlement of the jurisdictional dispute which has affected the M-G-M, Columbia and Paramount studios.

So far, the officials said, neither of National Labor Relations Board, the Department of Labor nor the War Labor Board has been asked to intervene, and none of those agencies showed any disposition to move in on the situation at the present time.

A spokesman for the WLB, however, said the regional office of the Labor Department's conciliation service had reported it was working to settle the dispute and that, if it failed the case might be referred to the WLB. Only in the case of emergencies affecting the war does the board intervene on its own initiative, and then only after consultation with the Labor Department, it was explained.

At the Department of Labor, officials said the regional office would attempt to bring the warring unions together and that, if conciliation failed, the matter would be referred to Washington. Until then, they said, the Washington office will not attempt to do anything.

The NLRB does not take up labor disputes except upon petition of an interested party for an election. No such petition has been received from the unions or the studios, it was said.

SPG-Producers Pact Expires; No Walkout

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—The five-year contract between the Screen Publicists Guild and the producers expired today but has been extended indefinitely pending negotiations for a new pact. The guild, according to an SPG spokesman, has been endeavoring without success for the past 14 months to arrange new terms.

Although affiliated with the Conference of Studio Unions, SPG has taken no walkout action, and indications are that none is planned.

Boston Exchanges in Tribute to Willkie

BOSTON, Oct. 9.—Local distributors will unite in tribute to Wendell Willkie at 20th Century-Fox by observing a one-minute period of silence, and will display the flag over the local offices at half-mast during the entire period preceding and during the funeral services today for Willkie.

Paramount, Universal, Monogram, Warner Brothers, Republic and M-G-M will participate in the tribute and U. S. Senator Sinclair Weeks, a close personal friend of Willkie, said: "The world, the United States, the industry and the people of the world have lost a great friend, a great man."

Off Today for MGM 'Romance' Opening

A group of M-G-M home office executives will leave today for Cincinnati to attend the banquet and special preview of "An American Romance," to be held at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel and RKO Albee, respectively, tomorrow night in advance of the 132-city world premiere. In the group are: Howard Dietz, Silas F. Seadler, William R. Ferguson, Herbert Crooker, Oscar Doob, William Danziger, and Carl Rigrod of the Donahue & Coe advertising agency.

See Theatre Equipment Innovations

(Continued from page 1)

improved carbon, but assured the trade that no new equipment will be necessary to use it. He urged the dealers and exhibitors to use up surplus stocks of victory carbons to be ready for the new product as soon as it is ready after the war. He cautioned not to expect the new product immediately after the war, due to manpower and raw material problems which will take time to iron out.

Projector manufacturers promised new and improved models, but explained that due to military secrets and as yet incomplete plans, details cannot be revealed. Among projector representatives to promise new products were: H. Bob Engle, sales manager of DeVry; L. W. Davee, Century Projector Corp. executive; Fred J. Wenzel of the Wenzel Projector Co., and Carl M. Weber of the Weber Machine Corp.

Predicts High Prices

A paper written by Fred Matthews of Motiograph was read by Ray G. Colvin, TEDPA's president and secretary. Matthews predicted high prices for equipment after the war, but an excellent demand from the exhibitors who are now trained to appreciate new and good equipment and are in a better financial shape to buy it. He attributed his high price prediction to high costs of operation and raw material, which will continue in the post war period. He, too, predicted new models of projectors and sound reproducers.

Chester C. Cooley of Da-Lite Screen, revealed that the beaded screen, because of its no-glare quality and brightness, will be the screen of the future. He added that his company is still experimenting with glass fibre cloth screens, despite their prohibitive costs at this time, but that it has abandoned the thought of manufacturing concave screens.

Some of the projector manufacturers predicted a future in the smaller theatres for the 16 mm projectors because of its economy. DeVry and Wenzel, among others, will make a model using an arc lamp unit.

Revolutionize Seating

W. A. Gedris of the Ideal Seating Co. claimed that the postwar chair now on the drawing board will revolutionize the seating field. Carl M. Weber of the Weber Machine Corp. saw a similarly radical change in the postwar sound reproducer which will come as a complete unit.

Colvin said that TEDPA will hold a national trade show in the near future in conjunction with a national exhibitors' group, but did not reveal the name of the association. He urged the manufacturers to revive their dormant organization and was understood to have had a discussion on this matter with Williford of National Carbon.

Allen G. Smith, theatre equipment chief of WPB in Washington, attended all sesstions to answer dealers' questions on equipment regulations. He felt that order L-325, which regulates the flow of theatre equipment, will be "dead and buried" by the time TEDPA meets in convention next year.

Business is Dull Along Broadway; Set 5 New Films

(Continued from page 1)

ington" will follow it into the Hall.

"Greenwich Village" will bring the Roxy a moderate $68,000 for its second and final week, on the basis of $52,000 taken in on the first five days ending Sunday night. Twentieth Century-Fox's "Laura" combined with a stage bill featuring Hazel Scott and Jackie Miles, will take over at the Roxy tomorrow. The fifth and final week of "Double Indemnity" will bring the Paramount a modest $50,000. "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," combined with a stage bill featuring Frank Sinatra and Raymond Paige and his band, will open at the theatre tomorrow. "Doughgirls" will finish a six-week run at the Hollywood tonight with a light $12,000 taken in on the sixth and final week. "To Have and Have Not" will open at the house tomorrow. Universal's "The Merry Monahans" will replace "Gypsy Wildcat" at the Criterion on Thursday with the latter film bringing $20,000 on its eight days at the theatre.

'Cross' Excellent

"The Seventh Cross" is continuing to excellent business at the Capitol, combined with a Horace Heidt stage bill, and $70,000 is expected on the second week. "Marriage Is a Private Affair" is slated to follow "Cross" into the Capitol. Another film which is doing excellent business is "Frenchman's Creek" at the Rivoli where $54,000 is expected on the third week. "Arsenic and Old Lace" will bring a neat $48,000 on its sixth week at the Strand combined with a stage show featuring Charlie Barnet and his band. This film will remain a seventh and final week at the Strand before making way for "The Conspirators."

A profitable $27,000 is expected on the seventh week of "Kismet" at the Astor and the film will continue. "Music in Manhattan" is expected to get about $20,000 on its initial week at the Palace on the basis of $9,400 taken in on the first three days ending Sunday night and the film will hold over. "Heavenly Days" follows.

"My Pal, Wolf" at the Republic is expected to bring a mild $8,500 on its first week on the basis of $3,000 taken in on the first two days. "Dead Man's Eyes" will be held over for a second week at the Rialto with a fair $9,000 expected on the first week. The Globe will hold "Barbary Coast Gent" for a third and final week with $16,000 expected on the second week ending tonight. "Sweet and Lowdown" will open at the Globe Oct. 18 and will be followed by "Abroad With Two Yanks." "Dangerous Journey" will hold for a third week at the Gotham with $9,000 expected on the second week. "Wilson" will continue its moveover run at the Victoria with a satisfactory second week of $16,000 ending tonight expected.

FILM DUBBING
SCRIPT ADAPTATION
GHOST VOICE
SPANISH-PORTUGESE-FRENCH
Spanish Sound Studios
41 E. 42 St. N. Y. 17 MU 2-5358

Review

"Bluebeard"

(PRC)

Hollywood, Oct. 9

IF the cast names suggest this is a film above the PRC par, that is correct. The players include John Carradine, Jean Parker, Nils Asther, Ludwig Stossel, George Pembroke, Henry Kolker, Emmett Lynn, Patti McCarty and Iris Adrian. And all these and others turn in concise, clean-cut portrayals of the characters in the unmodernized story of the Bluebeard who terrorized Paris in the last century, Edgar Ulmer netting a neat credit for measured and potent direction. The film's a departure from the standard flow of melodrama and a smartly wrapped package of thrill.

Produced by Leon Fromkess, with Martin Mooney as associate, the script by Pierre Gendron, based on the story by Arnold Phillips and Werner H. Furst, concerns an artist who, disappointed in love during his youth, has found himself emotionally impelled thereafter to kill the girls whose portraits he paints. He takes up puppeteering, to keep away from painting, but an art dealer who knows his past compels him to paint portraits which he sells at highest prices. Disposal of the victims' bodies in the Seine leads, indirectly and through fascinating shifts of circumstances, to detection and ultimate death of the artist.

Carradine as the psychiatric painter surpasses any performance he's given lately, or ever, topping a picture that's tops for its company.

Runing time, 70 min. Release date, October 15. "G."*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

Only One Witness For Schine Trial

BUFFALO, Oct. 9.—Robert L. Wright of the Justice Department called only one witness today, Morris Kronick of the Naval Supply Depot at Scotia, N. Y., former operator of the Orpheum Theatre at New Amsterdam, as the Schine anti-trust trial resumed here today.

Kronick testified he operated the Orpheum from July, 1931, to May 1941, selling the equipment of the house to Schine on the latter date. He admitted he held no lease, but was the tenant.

Under direct examination by Wright, Kronick said there was a clause in the contract for purchase and sale that "I would not engage in the same type of business in New Amsterdam for a period of 5 or 10 years, I don't remember which." He said the sale price was $7,000.

Schine opened the Regent in New Amsterdam in 1937. He testified under direct examination that he was unable to obtain Warner and 20th-Fox product thereafter but under cross examination by Saul E. Rogers for Schine admitted he obtained other product from major distributors.

24 Million Feet of Raw Stock Lost

(Continued from page 1)

cent of the present output of raw stock is being used for war purposes. How military demands have cut in on available supplies was indicated by comparisons which showed that six times as much gun camera film was needed by the armed services in the third quarter as compared with the first quarter this year; in terms of screen time more 16-mm film is used to make training pictures than is used by all the Hollywood producers: third-quarter requirements for aero films tripled as compared with first and second quarter requirements and military demand for X-ray film has more than tripled since Pearl Harbor.

Holdovers Slowing Washington Pace

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 10.—"Arsenic and Old Lace" at Warner's Earle, and Sammy Kaye and his orchestra, with "The Hairy Ape" on the screen at Loew's Capital will do above-average business this week. Other grosses are fair in a somewhat slow week, due to the prevalence of hold-overs at most downtown houses.

Estimated receipts for the week ending October 12 are:

"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Sammy Kaye Orchestra. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Song of the Open Road" (UA)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,200).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. On stage: Joey Rardin. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $19,700).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
RKO KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $11,000. Average: $13,600).

"Secret Command" (Col.)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,200).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $19,000).

Cowdin Heads Films In N. Y. Fund Drive

(Continued from page 1)

pointed Harold W. McGraw, vice-president of the McGraw Hill Publishing Co., chairman of the commerce and industry division of the campaign which will carry the War Fund appeal directly into 60,000 corporations and firms as well as professions throughout the city.

James A. Farley, who was last year's chairman of this division, will continue in an active capacity as honorary chairman of the commerce and industry groups.

Actress' Father Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Eugene Falkenberg, father of Jinx Falkenburg, film actress, died today in Mexico City of a heart attack.

Depinet Sets 41 on 6th War Loan Drive

(Continued from page 1)

C. G. Eastman; Buffalo, M. A. Brown; Boston, A. M. Kane and Ed W. Ruff. Eastern: R. J. Folliard, RKO, district chairman, with Sam Gross, 20th Century-Fox in Philadelphia; M. E. Lefko, RKO, in Pittsburgh and J. B. Brecheen, RKO, in Washington. Eastern Central: Jack D. Goldhar, United Artists, district chairman, with the following U. S. representatives; Cincinnati, Harris Dudelson; Cleveland, Maury Orr and in Detroit, M. Dudelson.

Southeastern: Paul Wilson, 20th Century-Fox, district chairman, with the following 20th Century-Fox coworkers; Atlanta, Fred Dodson; Charlotte, John E. Holston; New Orleans, E. V. Landaiche. Southwestern: J. B. Underwood, Columbia, district chairman in Dallas, with the following Columbia men; Memphis, J. J. Rogers; Oklahoma City, C. A. Gibbs.

Midwestern: Sam Shirley, Loew's, district chairman in Chicago, with the following: Minneapolis, W. H. Workman, Loew's; Chicago, W. E. Banford, Loew's Milwaukee, Don Woods, Vitagraph. Indiana-Kentucky: Claude McKean, Vitagraph, in Indianapolis.

Other Areas

Prarie: J. E. Garrison, Universal, district chairman in Kansas City, with the following Universal men: St. Louis, Harry Hynes; Kansas City, Jack Langan; Des Moines, Lou Levy; Omaha, H. B. Johnson. Rocky Mountain: J. Herbert MacIntyre, RKO, district chairman in Los Angeles with Tom Bailey, RKO, in Denver and G. Davison, RKO, in Salt Lake City. West Coast: Henry Herbel, Vitagraph, district chairman, and the following Vitagraph men: Seattle, Vete Stewart; Portland, Oregon, Al Oxtoby; San Francisco, Al Shmitken and Los Angeles, Fred Greenberg.

Harry Brandt, National Chairman for the Drive, has been advised by Spyros Skouras that the latter will conduct a special meeting with his company's advertising, publicity and exploitation executives in New York today to help the drive.

Coast Exhibitors Meet on 6th Loan

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Leading circuit and independent exhibitors today met at the Ambassador Hotel to discuss the 6th War Loan. Speakers included Dave Bershon and Gus Metzger, former and new chairman; Robert Moulton, William Srere, Spence Leve, Fred Greenberg, Selmour Peiser, Ben H. Wallerstein, Sherrill Corwin, Charles Skouras, Robert Poole.

MacFarlane Dies

CHICAGO, Oct. 9.—W. E. MacFarlane, chairman of the Mutual Broadcasting System's executive committee and business manager of the *Chicago Tribune,* died at his suburban Lake Forest home today at the age of 60.

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GEORGE SHERMAN, *Director* • *Original Story by* ELIZABETH MEEHAN • *Adaptation by* DANE LUSSIER • *Screenplay by* DORIS GILBERT

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 71 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Rodgers Seeks Stimuli for Trade Shows

Screening for 8 Theatre Owners Costs $1,200

Disclosing that trade showings have cost M-G-M between $125,000 and $150,000 during the past three years, for a uniformly negligible exhibitor attendance at the screenings, William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, said yesterday that the imposition of the practice illustrated how little those responsible for the consent decree know about the actualities of the industry.

Rodgers said, however, that he is working on a plan to increase exhibitor attendance at trade showings, regardless, and hopes to be able to announce it within the next few weeks.

The average national exhibitor attendance at a trade showing is 250,

(*Continued on page* 12)

Willkie Services Here and on Coast

Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, led directors, officers and scores of the home office staff of that company to funeral services here yesterday for Wendell Lewis Willkie, national figure, Republic Presidential nominee in 1940, counsel for the motion picture industry before the Senate Interstate Commerce sub-committee investigating screen

(*Continued on page* 12)

Selective Process For Europe Market

Distributors' foreign department heads here are turning closer to the many problems of how best to implement distribution in those liberated European countries that have not shown American films commercially for a number of years.

The vast backlog of product accumu-

(*Continued on page* 9)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, October 12, a legal holiday in New York State.**

Four - Year - Olders Ease Chicago Jam

Chicago, Oct. 10.—Independents in the neighborhoods here are finding relief from the current product shortage and first-run prosperity wave in the booking of two to four-year-old pictures. With an increased percentage of regular neighborhood trade spending increased earnings in the more luxurious downtown theatres, neighborhood exhibitors find that many of the new pictures are practically 'milked dry' when they reach their screens. 'Surprise' bookings of pictures of seasons back give exhibitors product not currently played out and renewed interest from neighborhood patrons.

63 Leaders Give 6th War Drive Full US Exhibitor Coverage

The industry's Sixth War Loan drive committee now has exhibitor state chairman in all principal cities, Harry Brandt, national industry chairman, announced here yesterday.

This coverage has been made possible by the appointment of 45 additional state chairmen, supplementing the 18 reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Monday. Many of those named have been active in previous bond campaigns.

The new group of appointees incudes: Alabama, R. M. Kennedy, Birmingham; Arizona, Harry Nace, Phoenix; Arkansas, Claude Mundo,

(*Continued on page* 12)

State Dept. Ready to Set Trade Pacts

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10.—State Department officials are now ready at any time to enter into discussions with representatives of other governments regarding agreements for postwar international trade in motion pictures, it was learned here today.

A number of studies initiated by Francis C. De Wolfe, chief of the telecommunications division, have been completed and the Department is prepared to make its suggestions known to any other country which may be interested, it was said.

So far, no foreign government has been invited to discuss the matter of postwar film trade and there is no in-

(*Continued on page* 9)

Petrillo Refuses FDR Record Bid

CHICAGO, Oct. 10.—James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, and the AFM's international executive board, today refused President Roosevelt's request to end the AFM ban on records. Petrillo, in a nine-page statement, issued following a two-day conference with the board, admitted to the President that he had promised him that he would lift the ban at Roosevelt's request but that that

(*Continued on page* 9)

Shutdown at Five Major Studios Seen

Strike May Hit Shooting Schedules in 72 Hours

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 10.—A production shutdown at five major studios where set decorators, painters and machinists have ceased work impends. Today a "no work" edict issued by Herbert Sorrell, president, Conference of Studio Unions, hit 20th Century-Fox. The other four are M-G-M, Columbia, Paramount and Warners. One additional studio per day is Sorrell's plan, thus far maintained without a break in the line.

Wherever possible, the studios are shooting around sets

(*Continued on page* 12)

Complete Exchange Workers' WLB Pleas

Film company exchange operational heads and representatives of the IATSE yesterday signed applications of the New York and Philadelphia exchange "white collar" workers' unions for War Labor Board approval of a system of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales and 10 per cent wage increases. The New York applications were sub-

(*Continued on page* 12)

Richie Warns Allied Of Over-Expansion

DETROIT, Oct. 10.—The annual session of Allied Theatres of Michigan got down to business today at the hotel Book-Cadillac with registrations for the silver anniversary meeting nearing the 300 mark. An afternoon business session found the speakers stressing the need for cooperation in

(*Continued on page* 9)

'The Princess and the Pirate'

[*Samuel Goldwyn-RKO Radio*]

STARRING Bob Hope in another of his hilarious rib-tickling comedy roles, surrounded by another stunning and lavish Samuel Goldwyn color production and featuring a story of high adventure and appealing romance which audiences are not expected to take seriously, "The Princess and the Pirate" is easily one of the outstanding comedies of the year. It offers everything possible in the way of excellent escapist entertainment and it should command top grosses at the nation's box offices.

To provide a background for Hope's delightful and droll comedy antics, Goldwyn has had his scripters delve into swashbuckling pirate lore. In this film, Hope emerges as "Sylvester the Great," a cowardly vaudeville actor, or whatever it is they called "hams" in those days, who rescues a real honest-to-goodness princess from the clutches of as dastardly a band of cut-throats as ever sailed the seven seas in search

(*Continued on page* 10)

Also Reviewed Today

In addition to the review of "The Princess and the Pirate," RKO-Goldwyn, appearing in adjoining columns, reviews of "To Have and Have Not," Warners, and "Laura," 20th Century-Fox, appear on pages nine and 10, respectively.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH R. VOGEL, vice president of Loew's and operator of the Capitol and Astor here and Loew's out-of-town theatres, celebrated his 35th anniversary with the company yesterday.

•

JUDITH ANN FINKELSTEIN was born last weekend at Woman's Hospital, New York, to MRS. GERTRUDE FINKELSTEIN and PFC MARK FINKELSTEIN, former Circuit Cinema Corp. executive.

•

IRVING LESSER, managing director of the Roxy Theatre here, reports receipt of word of citations awarded to ex-Roxyites SGT. FRED VESTAL, Air Forces, and CAPT. DAN MORGAN.

•

WALTER COWAN, Paramount International representative in the Near East, has arrived at the Paramount office in Cairo where he will make temporary headquarters.

•

CARL LESERMAN, United Artists general sales manager, and producer BENEDICT E. BOGEAUS left Hollywood on the Superchief last night for New York.

•

L. J. PATTON and A. J. RADEMACHER, Altec Service New York branch managers, will leave for the Coast this week for Altec's annual conference.

•

MAX HOFFMAN and BERT JACOCKS, film buyers for Warner Theatres in the New England territory, are in New York from New Haven on business.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager for Warners, will leave tonight for Cincinnati on a tour of exchanges in the central territory.

•

LEON FROMKESS, PRC president, and LEO J. MCCARTHY, general sales manager, are scheduled to arrive from the Coast about Oct. 23.

•

CHARLES S. EINFELD, Warners' director of advertising and publicity, left Hollywood yesterday for New York on the Superchief.

•

A. C. BROMBERG, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, Atlanta, is visiting the Memphis branch.

•

ANDRE DELAVARRE, producer of short subjects for Warners, is enroute to Arizona from Hollywood.

•

MILTON FELDMAN, Columbia assistant director, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

JACOB SEGAL, Columbia's assistant foreign sales manager, has returned from vacation.

•

BUDD ROGERS arrived in Hollywood yesterday from New York.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Oct. 10

HAVING been deluged with virtually every conceivable stripe of film bearing on the war in Europe, there is exhibitor interest in what may be expected when the curtain rings down on the Continental theatre of hostilities.

Enough fact and opinion have found their place in the columns of MOTION PICTURE DAILY to support the broad outline of the case: War films, or films about war and its offshoots, will continue. A recent broad sweep of all programs for the new season showed 100 features, finished or planned, reflecting the impacts and the emotions of war, but not necessarily showing scenes of battle.

The fortunate difference today is that studios are exercising greater discrimination in selection of story material. They appear more keenly alive to the sound conclusion that story stature cannot be ignored. Simply enough, this must mean a powerful piece of drama cannot and should not be discarded merely because it deals with some phase of the military scene.

■

Thus, war pictures—to employ a rather sweeping definition — will be in the running. The next logical query is what kind? Are producers figuring a dip, a la wholesale, into yarns about the Pacific theatre, anticipating the newspaper headlines of an onrushing day?

We have asked a few Hollywood executives their views. The question was this: "Do you foresee a swing toward attractions dealing with the war in the Pacific after V-E Day? Here are the answers:

Joseph M. Schenck, executive head of Twentieth Century-Fox production: "I do not."

Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president in charge of the Paramount studio: "There is no reason why there should be. I continue to maintain it is not a matter of geography at all, but a matter of dramatic and entertainment values which will fix determination."

Charles W. Koerner, vice-president in charge of RKO production: "The ending of the war in Europe would not necessarily govern the type of pictures that RKO will make in the coming years. The quality of the story, rather than the central theme, would be our determining factor."

Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic Prod.: "I do not see any change in our policy regarding the banning of war themes even though the closing of this global war eventually will be in the Pacific. There might be an exceptional story which would make us change our mind, but it would not make us change our rule."

Samuel Goldwyn: "If an outstanding story comes along with a Pacific background, I'm sure it will be done, but I do not see a trend toward pictures laid in the Pacific."

William Goetz, president of International Pictures: "I see no such swing. To date, I think the Pacific war has already been thoroughly covered by such films as 'Wake Island,' 'Guadalcanal Diary,' 'Marine Raiders,' 'Gung Ho,' 'Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo' and many others. I think the same average will continue, but that there will be many pictures made about the European conflict which couldn't be made during that conflict because of security reasons."

W. Ray Johnston, president of Monogram, a cryptic: "Not too much."

Sol Lesser: "I feel there is never a 'wrong time' for good product. If one has an unusually powerful story, it doesn't require a cycle to make it successful. Every good picture begins a cycle."

Leon Fromkess, president of PRC Prod.: "Naturally, the industry in its effort to help the war will focus on Pacific backgrounds, but instead of making pictures dealing with Jap atrocities PRC proposes to glorify the Philippines and China."

■ ■

Mutual Productions, latest solo venture in these regions, finds Fred MacMurray and Leslie Fenton partners. MacMurray, who recently signed a seven-year deal with Twentieth Century-Fox, is allowed one outside film a year in consonance with what is rather general practice, circa 1944. However, there are no bars against that outsider being turned out for TFC, and that's precisely what may happen.

Good old capital gains!

Coming Events

Oct. 16-20—Annual business conference, Altec Service and Altec Lansing, Hollywood.

Oct. 17—Society of Motion Picture Engineers semi-annual banquet, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Oct. 17—West Virginia Theatre Owners' meeting, Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston.

Oct. 17 — Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina annual meeting, Charlotte.

Oct. 20-Nov. 5 — Industry field meetings on Sixth War Loan Campaign.

Nov. 5—Western Motion Picture Radio Awards Association meeting, Hollywood Bowl, Hollywood.

Nov. 11—Motion Picture Associates' Sixth War Loan dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.

Nov. 14—'Night of Stars,' for United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 20-Dec. 16 — Sixth War Loan campaign.

Nov. 23-25 — National Variety Club meeting, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Dec. 7—National 'Free Movie Day' at theatres for Sixth War Loan.

Mayer to Be Feted At Farewell Dinner

Arthur L. Mayer, recently appointed aide to Stanton Griffis as deputy commissioner for the Red Cross in the Pacific Islands area, will be feted at an all-industry dinner next Wednesday night, Oct. 18, at the Waldorf-Astoria. Mayer is scheduled to leave for his headquarters in Hawaii later this month.

Harry Brandt, national chairman for the 6th War Loan Drive, assisted by S. H. Fabian, David Weinstock and Edward Schreiber are taking charge of the arrangements for the dinner.

Yolen Rejoining WB Following OWI Job

Will Yolen, who left Warners last January on leave of absence to join OWI for an overseas assignment, has returned from London following completion of that assignment and will rejoin the Warner publicity department in two weeks, it was announced here yesterday by Mort Blumenstock, in charge of advertising-publicity in the East.

In London, Yolen organized and directed the news desk of the American Broadcasting Station in Europe.

MOT Promotes Wetzel

Robert Wetzel of March of Time's research department, has been promoted to the script division and named a member of the MOT editorial board. He was formerly with Mutual, CBS and the Blue networks.

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WHO TOPS M·G·M?

ONLY M·G·M

AN AMERI

M-G-M's Opening Gun...Topped by M

From Cincinnati across the nation echoes the Super-Showmanship World Premiere in 132 Cities of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia. Never before such coverage. WLW Radio campaign, big newspaper space, posting, exploitation, parades, banquets. The works!

Watch for 32-page brochure to be mailed to M-G-M showmen shortly, reproducing studies of "An American Romance" by 45 famed American artists. Above is Ralph Illigan's impression

AN AMERICAN ROMANCE

M-G-M's Opening Gun...Topped by M-G-M's Biggest Barrage!

From Cincinnati across the nation echoes the Super-Showmanship World Premiere in 132 Cities of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia. Never before such coverage. WLW Radio campaign, big newspaper space, posting, exploitation, parades, banquets. The works!

In 48 State Capitals and Washington, D. C. M-G-M showmanship holds the spotlight. Dramatic FULL-PAGE ads in each city: vast billboard campaigns; American Express Truck posting; spot radio campaigns tied in directly with playdates. A great picture starts its box-office career in high!

RIGHT: Just a few of the many big national magazines carrying full-page ads on "An American Romance"

BIG NATIONAL MAGAZINE CAMPAIGN

AMERICAN EXPRESS TRUCKS

INTENSIVE RADIO CAMPAIGN TIED IN WITH PLAYDATES

24-SHEET POSTING CAMPAIGN

A FULL PAGE AD IN EVERY CITY

Watch for 32-page brochure to be mailed to M-G-M showmen shortly, reproducing studies of "An American Romance" by 45 famed American artists. Above is Ralph Illigan's impression.

KING VIDOR'S PRODUCTION OF
M-G-M's MIGHTY TECHNICOLOR HIT

AN AMERICAN ROMANCE

STARRING

BRIAN DONLEVY

WITH

ANN RICHARDS • WALTER ABEL
JOHN QUALEN • HORACE McNALLY

PHOTOGRAPHED IN TECHNICOLOR

Screen Play by Herbert Dalmas and William Ludwig

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

Produced and Directed by KING VIDOR

NEXT!

Most Home Offices To Observe Holiday

Varied schedules for home office operations tomorrow, Columbus Day, were reported as follows: Columbia, M-G-M, Universal and Warners will close at one o'clock. Monogram, RKO and 20th Century-Fox will be closed all day; Paramount and PRC will be open all day; United Artists and Republic were undecided at a late hour yesterday. The MPPDA will be open until one.

State Dept. Ready to Set Trade Pacts

(*Continued from page* 1)

dication that the Department is desirous of pressing the matter at this time. No efforts are being made at the moment to push any postwar commercial agreements, pending a determination next month by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee whether the Anglo-American petroleum agreement, the first of such arrangements to be perfected, is a treaty requiring ratification by the Senate.

The State Department's motion picture program, so far as it has been disclosed, lays down broad principles of equitable and non-discriminatory treatment by all nations for the films of other countries, both as regards import duties and internal taxes and regulations; censorship on moral grounds only, and no restrictions on the payment of earnings on films to those to whom they are due.

Delicate Matter

Several of the Department's objectives run counter to the pre-war policies of some countries, which set up quota systems; imposed discriminatory taxes and regulations on imported films; and in other ways handicapped the foreign distribution of American-made films. The negotiation of postwar agreements, accordingly, is a delicate matter, and it is possible the Department will take no steps to initiate discussions with other countries until after the end of the war in Europe and the establishment of new governments in the liberated countries.

Petrillo Refuses FDR Record Bid

(*Continued from page* 1)

statement was made two years ago, when the Petrillo order first became effective, at a time when no record or transcription companies had signed the AFM's royalty-per-platter agreement.

Today, Petrillo said, 105 record and transcription companies have already signed the union's royalty contract and that only two large companies, RCA-Victor and Columbia, have refused to sign. Petrillo added that it would be unfair to the companies which are already abiding by the AFM agreement to lift the imposed ban.

Petrillo told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that artists on contract to Victor and Columbia will not make records for those companies.

Review

"To Have and Have Not"

(*Warner Bros.*) *Hollywood, Oct.* 10

MARTINIQUE is in the tropics. The tropics are sultry. And so is "To Have and To Have Not."

Climatically, the temperature hovers around the high digits. Climactically, this attraction flirts in the same area, darts into those same digits and out again, manages to keep matters on the simmering side. Consequence: A film much warmer than the general run of its Hollywood contemporaries.

This is accomplished, with design, by throwing away the novel as Ernest Hemingway wrote it, but by retaining the central characters who are surrounded with a 1940 political setting. That setting is Martinique where De Gaullists are beginning to make things hum for Admiral Robert and his Vichy administrators. Against this background is Humphrey Bogart, skipper of a trim and fast cabin cruiser hired out for deep-sea fishing. Very much in the foreground, after a long and not very pointed opening, is Lauren Bacall. She makes quite an entry in this, her maiden picture.

She is slinky, sleek and tawny-haired. She is also tawny. Her voice is deep and interesting. Her deportment has a decided "come-hither" look and her brand of acting is purring and tintillating in the slow-cooking manner. She is the bad girl, also a pickpocket, who is ready to slam closed the book on the past and stick with Bogart who likes that kind of sticking. Miss Bacall is a definite personality, stylistically studied in her debut and strongly reminiscent of Veronica Lake in less hilly surroundings. There are far prettier actresses in Hollywood, but not many that leave the Bacall kind of impress. When "To Have and Have Not" gets around the theatres, this young woman will make an impression. She might even develop into a nationwide vogue.

At any rate, this leisurely told yarn concentrates pretty much on the mutual, but never platonic, attraction which springs up between the girl and the always excellent Bogart. He knows she is a "phoney" at the outset, and he's right. But she plays hard in order to get him, and he goes. He goes to the tune of undertaking a dangerous and illegal mission for the Free French so that he can muster enough cash to fly her home. He thinks she flies, but she doesn't. When the Vichy police attempt to close in, Bogart gets rough. He kills one of them, handcuffs the remaining two and beats an inspector to a point where Walter Brennan, rum-soaked derelict member of Bogart's crew, is released. Then the group, plus the French underground agent helped by Bogart for a consideration, takes to the boat and freedom.

IT requires much celluloid to bring the film in. In fact, it takes more than is desirable or necessary to cover the ground. The inevitable consequence is diffused dramatics, injured through length, when tightness would have aided considerably.

But there is Bogart. There is a colorful background. There is Brennan, whose old-soak role is skillfully drawn. By no means to be ignored, also, there is Hoagy Carmichael, who numbers "Stardust" among his songs, who plays the piano with deftness and who acts his small part with finesse enough to indicate more acting jobs will await him in Hollywood. There is nice work by other players who include Walter Molnar, Dan Seymour and Dolores Moran. Offering no escape, if any were sought, there are Miss Bacall, those torrid lines in the dialogue and the steam in the boilers of her relationship with Bogart.

These assets, finally, combine into an attraction with many angles of appeal for audiences who like pepper. Theatremen are supposed to know how many do. Hawks produced, as well as directed.

Running time, 100 minutes. "A."* Release date, Jan. 21, 1945.

*"*A*" *denotes adult classification.* RED KANN

Selective Process for European Market

(*Continued from page* 1)

lated in three or four years, none of which has been exhibted on the Continent, necessitates a process of selectivity as to which films should be marketed, it seems generally agreed in distributor circles. The consensus is that if distributors, confronted by a buyer's market, attempt to dump pictures wholesale into the European market, they may depress what otherwise would be healthy rentals. A further complication is injected by the reentry of the British on the scene.

Although the American public is described as turning away from topical war films, it is understood that these seemingly dated films are expected to be given a good reception by the French, who are said to be particularly interested in films of the Pacific War, information on which filtered through the German censorship only sparsely.

Treasury, War Dept. Praise Skouras Aid

Henry Morgenthau, Jr., and Henry Stimson, Secretaries of the Treasury and War departments, respectively, have sent congratulatory messages to Charles P. Skouras, chairman of the National Executive Committee of "The Army at War" exhibition of paintings and drawings, which are being exhibited in theatres throughout the country, starting with the Roxy, New York, yesterday. The paintings will be shown in 28 cities through Oct. 31.

Morgenthau's telegram told how pleased the Treasury is for "the manner in which you launched" the exhibit. Stimson's wire stated: "It was our hope that the showing would bring a clearer understanding and closer association with the experiences and lives of our soldiers; the enthusiasm which greeted the preview would indicate that this program was well on its way to being served."

Warne a Witness at Schine Hearing

BUFFALO, Oct. 10.—Thomas E. Warne, Utica payroll clerk and former operator of the Hippodrome, Little Falls, N. Y., a house acquired by the Schine Circuit in 1936, was placed on the stand by Robert L. Wright, Assistant Attorney General, as a Government witness in the trial of the Federal anti-trust suit against the circuit in U. S. District Court here today.

Warne, who formerly managed the Rialto for Schine in Little Falls and was discharged, testified as to the difficulty he encountered with branch managers in Albany in obtaining second run product for the Hippodrome. Cross-examined by Edward F. McClennen, Schine counsel, Warne admitted he had a first run at the Hippodrome and had Paramount, Columbia and Universal product second run, in addition to independent product from First Division, Standard and Pyramid. McClennen also sought to show Warne had a bank account of only $43 for the booking of films and that on one occasion a check he gave to a distributor for product was returned marked "insufficient funds."

Examine Fennyvessy

The rest of the day was spent in cross-examination of H. T. Fennyvessy of Rochester, also by McClennen, who sought to establish that Fennyvessy's father actually desired to sell his theatre interests to Schine. Questions also concerned the types of neighborhoods in which Schine and Fennyvessy houses were located and the size of the houses and their clearance provisions.

Richie Warns Allied Of Over-Expansion

(*Continued from page* 1)

the Sixth War Loan and warning about postwar dangers.

President Ray Branch made a strong plea for more cooperation in the next bond drive. He asked particularly for more issuing agencies. In answer to previously expressed protests that some hard-working members of Allied had not received recognition for those services, he pointed out that such recognition would be forthcoming in the future.

Chief of the postwar dangers stressed at the afternoon session was that of over-expansion of film houses. H. M. Richie, MGM official, dwelt on the harm that might come to all established houses if there were indiscriminate building of new theatres. He suggested that the needs of the public should be fully affirmed before expansion was made and that any unnecessary building should be strongly resisted.

After the meeting, the delegates were guests of 20th Century-Fox at a "social mixer."

RKO presented a special invitation trade showing of "The Princess and the Pirate" at the United Artists theatre.

Tomorrow, last day of the three-day meeting, will feature the election of officers and a final closed session.

'SYWA's' $30,000 Is Cleveland's High

CLEVELAND, Oct. 10.—"Since You Went Away" was tops for the week, heading for $30,000 at Loew's State, where $19,000 is par. It is slated for a two weeks' stay. Other theatres just got by, hampered by rainy weather.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 11:

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,500).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $22,100).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (75c-$1.10) 4th week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,200 at regular prices).
"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $19,000).
"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Woody Herman's Band. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $25,400).
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000).

500 Stars to Attend 'Night of Stars'

Five hundred personalities of the entertainment world are expected to assemble at the 11th annual "Night of Stars," scheduled for Madison Square Garden, Tuesday, Nov. 14, according to Robert M. Weitman, chairman of the producing committee, who has announced that the following will appear:

Gertrude Neisen, Bobby Clark, Milton Berle, Zero Mostel, Lou Holtz, Ray Bolger, the DeMarcos, Marion Hutton, Hal LeRoy, Joe E. Lewis, Bert Wheeler and Ed Sullivan.

Proceeds of the benefit go to the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine.

Amos 'N Andy Plan Television Show

Amos N' Andy (Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll) are planning a television program, they disclosed, at a press luncheon given in their honor by National Broadcasting at 21 Club here yesterday.

NBC executives present at the luncheon included: Niles Trammell, president; Frank E. Mullen, vice-president and general manager; C. L. Menser, vice-president in charge of programs; Roy Witmer vice-president in charge of sales; A. L. Ashby, vice-president and general counsel; Clay Blaney and John McKay.

Will Miss Variety Meet

CHICAGO, Oct. 10. — Johnny Jones, chief barker of the local Variety Club, will forego the national meeting in Washington Nov. 23-25, due to his scheduled trip to Los Angeles late this month. Doc Banford, past chief barker, probably will attend the convention instead.

On Job 33 Years

DES MOINES, Oct. 10.—Dora Middlesworth has just completed 33 years of service with Tri-States Theatre Corp., here. In point of service, she is the company's oldest employe.

'The Princess and the Pirate'

[*Samuel Goldwyn-RKO Radio*]

(*Continued from page* 1)

of plunder. Virginia, Mayo, a new Goldwyn discovery, is the lovely princess; Victor McLaglen is the sinister leader of the pirate band and Walter Slezak is the corrupt governor of a West Indies province in league with the pirates. Walter Brennan provides additional comedy as the half-witted "brains" of the motley pirate crew.

Since films must have a story, six writers have labored to bring forth this one. Sy Bartlett provided the original; Allen Boretz and Curtis Kenyon, the adaptation; and Don Hartman, Melville Shavelson and Everett Freeman, the screen play. It places Miss Mayo, who is seeking to escape a marriage arranged by her father, the king, aboard a packet bound for Jamaica. Hope is traveling to the new world to escape the reputation he has established for himself as an actor in the old.

THE pirates attack the packet to seize Miss Mayo and hold her for ransom but they get more than they bargain for. They get Hope disguised as a gypsy. With Brennan's help, he escapes not only with Miss Mayo but with the precious map of the location of the pirate's treasure. Suffice to say that under David Butler's swifty-paced direction, there isn't a letdown from start to finish, which sees both Miss Mayo and Hope rescued after their hilarious misadventures on the island governed by Slezak. Audiences who have always linked Hope with Bing Crosby will not be disappointed by the bang-up finish of this film. Yes! Crosby's in there at the finish and he gets the girl.

Don Hartman was associate producer with Goldwyn; the results rate plaudits in every department. Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson provided a song, "Kiss Me in the Moonlight," which is capably handled by Miss Mayo as part of her capable all-around performance. As for Hope's performance, it is strictly top-drawer, with the gags tossed off at a fast and furious pace designed to roll the audiences in the aisles. The early morning audience at the Normandie Theatre, New York, where the film was given an invitational preview yesterday, seemed to enjoy every moment of it, if their laughter is to be used as a barometer.

Running time, 94 minutes. "G."* No release date set. MILTON LIVINGSTON

"Laura"

(*20th Century-Fox*) *Hollywood, Oct.* 10

THERE'S money in "Laura." It's a smart and smartly-paced mystery melodrama with psychiatric impacts which manage to remain comfortably inside the understanding and comprehension of the average man in the average theatre. He'll have no trouble whatsoever in catching on, and remaining caught.

Producer-director Otto Preminger, at the outset, had a substantial story in the novel by Vera Caspary. Which is as important as ever it was in building an attraction. Jay Dratler, Samuel Hoffenstein and Betty Reinhardt delivered a workmanlike script. Gene Turney, Dana Andrews, Clifton Webb, Vincent Price and Judith Anderson indicate a cast combination of considerable merit, but it's more than an indication. It's a fact. Their parts fit them, and Preminger kept the tailoring neat and never gaudy.

Miss Tierney is an advertising copywriter risen to prominence through the sponsorship and interest of Webb. He is a columnist, a dilettante, an egomaniac and, as events show, a one-time murderer ready to try again; Webb gives a beautifully polished and intelligent performance. Price wants to marry the girl. Miss Anderson wants to marry Price. Andrews, police lieutenant, goes for Miss Tierney and ultimately wins.

Surrounding these characters is the murder of a woman. Both barrels of a shotgun have been exploded in her face, making recognition impossible. But, since the crime is committed in Miss Tierney's apartment, the assumption is she is the victim. A couple of days later, she reappears, having gone to the country to decide if it is Price she wants to wed. Actually, it is established the murdered woman is a model with whom Price had been romancing. The shuttle of suspicion thus weaves from Price back to Webb with a side glance or so at Miss Tierney and Miss Anderson, all of whom might have committed the killing for reasons of their own. Andrews tussles with sparse facts and juicy suspicions until, finally, the net draws tight when the murder weapon is unearthed in an antique clock Webb had given Miss Tierney.

At about this juncture, the svelte killer also appreciates his number is about up. In attempting to kill Miss T., he is blotted out himself. The established motivation for the crime is his love for the girl who does not reciprocate. Since he cannot have her, Webb determines no other man shall. Thus, the actual murder was never intended but grew out of a case of mistaken identity. The frustrated enterprise on Miss Tierney is the one Webb had planned from the outset.

This clears paths drawing Miss T. and Andrews together. It's a lightning kind of romance anyway, but put it down to dramatic license.

This is what "Laura" is about. It's good going all the way.

Running time, 87 minutes. "G."* Released, Nov., 1944.

**"G" denotes general classification.* RED KANN

Allied of N. J. Meets

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey held a general meeting on post-war subjects yesterday afternoon at its New York office. Harry H. Lowenstein, president, presided.

Form Dunlap Company

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 10.—Scott Dunlap Productions has been formed by Monogram to make four pictures annually, of which the first two will be "Golden Girl" and "Sunbonnet Sue."

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 10

JAMES A. FITZPATRICK has arranged with the governments of Russia and England to make some of his M-G-M 'Traveltalks' in those countries after the war. . . . Columbia has assigned Al Hall to direct Rosalind Russell in Virginia Van Upp's production of "Some Call It Love." Richard Wallace goes to that studio, upon completion of "It's In the Bag" for Jack Skirball, to direct "Kiss and Tell," starring Shirley Temple. . . . The King Brothers have rounded up George Purvis, nephew of Melvin Purvis, FBI operative who dispatched the late John Dillinger, for a role in their film based on the bandit's career, "John Dillinger." Now if Dillinger had any relatives—

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Hal B. Wallis has signed Robert Russell, co-author of "The More the Merrier," to write the script for "Don't Ever Grieve Me." . . . Dick Erdman, who came out of Hollywood High School to play the juvenile lead in "Janie," has had his contract renewed by Warners. . . . On account of story trouble on "Waltz Me Around Again, Willie," which was to be his first since returning from service, John Payne will play the male lead in "The Dolly Sisters," which William LeBaron will produce for 20th Century-Fox. . . . Arthur T. Horman, who recently joined Universal as associate producer, is to write and produce an untitled Abbott and Costello comedy as his first undertaking.

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Universal will start work on four pictures this month. They are: "She Gets Her Man," which will star Joan Davis, with Warren Wilson producing; the Abbott and Costello comedy, "Here Come the Co-Eds," which Jean Yarbrough will direct for producer John Grant; "Dracula Vs. Wolf Man," and "Song of the Sarong."

Stars Aid 'Romance' And Bond Campaign

CINCINNATI, Oct. 10.—Among players attending the banquet and preview of M-G-M's "An American Romance" here tomorrow night will be Brian Donlevy, Ann Richards, Walter Abel, Harriet Lee, Horace McNally, Nancy Walker, "Rags" Ragland and Jean Porter, all of whom have visited Army bases and hospitals in this area during the past week. The group will also appear at a $1,000,000 bond rally to be held tomorrow as well as participate in the Columbus Day parade Thursday.

M-G-M executives who entrained at New York today to be on hand for the opening include Howard Dietz, Silas F. Seadler, William R. Ferguson, Herbert Crooker, Oscar Doob and William Danziger.

Price to New York

TORONTO, Oct. 10. — Harry Price, who recently retired as general manager of Astor Pictures, Ltd., here, will leave for New York shortly where he plans to locate permanently in an undisclosed branch of the film industry. Price has been in the Canadian industry for 25 years.

'Wilson's' $35,000, 'SYWA's' $30,000 Are Boston Leaders

BOSTON, Oct. 10.—"Wilson" is the leader here this week, with "Since You Went Away" running a close second, taking, respectively, $35,000 and $30,000. "Greenwich Village" grossed a nice $15,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 8:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
BOSTON — (3,200) (76-$1.25). Stage show. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Roger Touhy" (20th-Fox)
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-74c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000).
"Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(1,500) ($1.10). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-74c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,000).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
METROPOLITAN — (4,367) (40c-74c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Since You Went Away" (Selznick-UA)
ORPHEUM—(2,900) (35c-74c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Roger Touhy" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(1,700) (40c-74c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000).
"Since You Went Away" (Selznick-UA)
STATE—(3,200) (35c-74c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $19,000).
"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
"Three of a Kind" (Mono.)
TRANSLUX—(900) (30c-74c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000).

Phila. Fund Drive Industry Group Set

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 10.—The industry's committee for the United War Chest has been set with Ben Amsterdam as division chairman.

Others include: for the film companies: Mrs. Edna R. Carroll and Ted Schlanger, chairmen; Ellis Shipman, vice-chairman; for the independent theatres: David Barrist and Jack Beresin, co-chairmen; and Earl W. Sweigert, James P. Clark, Al Boyd, Louis Krouse, Abe Sablosky, Lou Sablosky, Samuel Gross, Al J. Davis, Jay Emanuel, David Barrist, Harry Fried, Melvin Fox, Sam Shapiro, Morris Wax, Ray Schwartz, Lewen Pizor, Ben Fertel, Norman Lewis, A. M. Ellis, Leo Posel and Al Fischer.

MacFarlane Services Today in Lake Forest

CHICAGO, Oct. 10.—Funeral services for W. E. MacFarlane, 60, chairman of the executive committee of Mutual Broadcasting, vice president of WGN, Chicago, and business manager of the Chicago *Tribune*, will be held today at 2:30 P.M. at Rose Hill Cemetery Chapel, Lake Forest, Ill. MacFarlane died Monday at his home in Lake Forest.

One of the founders of Mutual, he was its first president and served in that capacity for eight years. He is survived by his widow, Alice, and two sons, Bruce, in a Naval school in Rhode Island, and Frederick, with the armed forces in the Pacific.

Ruth R. Sipe Dies

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 10. — Ruth Reeves Sipe, cashier at the M-G-M exchange here, died today. She had been with the company for more than 20 years.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS

"HEAVENS-I HAVEN'T ANOTHER THING TO WEAR!" WAILS DOTTY AS SHE PLANS FOR 3RD BIG BROADCAST IN NATIONAL NETWORK SERIES EXPLOITING TECHNICOLORFUL "RAINBOW ISLAND" GUEST APPEARANCES LAST WEEK-END ON LUX AND KENNY BAKER SHOWS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY FEATURED SPOT ON "DUFFY'S TAVERN" PROGRAM OCT. 20. LAMOUR-BRACKEN-LAMB MUSICAL CLICKED SOLIDLY LAST WEEK IN FIRST DATES.

$48,000 for 'SYWA' In Phila. Is More Than Double

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 10.—"Since You Went Away" at the Mastbaum virtually monopolized business at downtown houses with an intake pointing to $48,000 and an additional $5,200 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle, causing other new openings to suffer.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 11-13:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
ALDINE — (900) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $14,600).
"Janie" (WB)
ARCADIA — (600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,750. (Average: $4,000).
"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross $16,300. (Average: $18,000).
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox) (6 days)
"Since You Went Away" (UA) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (45c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville including Tommy Tucker's band, Don Brown, Kerwin Somerville, Bud Kimker, The 3 Two-Timers, Cordyn and Sawyer, Stan and Art Catron. Gross: $21,700. (Average: $27,600).
"Bride by Mistake"
FOX — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,900. (Average: $20,500).
"Topper" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, re-issue. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $6,600).
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $48,000. (Average: $22,500).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $20,000).
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (RKO)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,600. (Average: $9,400).

Wuerz, Road Show Pioneer, Dies at 63

Charles H. Wuerz, Sr., 63, Broadway and road manager of two decades ago, died in Los Angeles recently after a year's illness, the Loew home office reported here yesterday. Wuerz was general manager for Charles Blaney and Jos. Gaites. He joined Loew's in 1919, managing "The Four Horsemen" run at the Lyric here, and later managed Loew theatres in Boston, Washington, Dayton, New York and Los Angeles. For years he was city manager for Fox West Coast in San Bernardino, Cal.

Wuerz is survived by his widow, Kathryn, one-time musical comedy player, and a son, Pvt. Chas. Wuerz, Jr., now in Officer's Training School at Aberdeen, Md. He was a charter member of The Friar's Club, and a member of Pacific Lodge, F. and A. M. No. 733.

A. D. V. Storey Dies

A. D. V. Storey, publicity-exploitation veteran who had been employed by Universal, Columbia, and the old Fox company died Monday at his Brooklyn home. He was 67.

More recently he was secretary of the 16 mm. Board of Trade, here. He had also edited "Screen Snapshots" and had produced here, "Federated Screen Review." His widow and three children survive.

Rodgers Seeks Stimuli for Trade Shows

(Continued from page 1)

or approximately eight exhibitors at each of the 31 exchange center showings, Rodgers said. The average cost of an individual picture screening is $1,200, he estimated. On this cost basis, the five decree companies have spent approximately three-quarters of a million dollars on trade showings in the past three years.

Rodgers related that M-G-M is considering reissuing "Test Pilot," with Clark Gable, Spencer Tracy, Myrna Loy and Lionel Barrymore. Despite numerous requests to do so earlier, the company did not believe it would be in good taste to reissue the picture while Gable remained on active service. Consideration also is being given to requests for a reissue of "Naughty Marietta," with Jeannette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy, Rodgers said.

Faith in Future

He emphasized the company's faith in the business future, pointing out that it was best demonstrated by the extremely large investments which it is continually putting into new productions. Observing that production costs are "terrific" now, Rodgers listed 11 new productions which he saw in whole or in part during his recent studio visit and which impressed him as offering exceptional entertainment values. They are: "30 Seconds Over Tokyo," "National Velvet," "Ziegfeld Follies," Anchors Aweigh," "The Picture of Dorian Grey," "This Man's Navy," "Meet Me in St. Louis," "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Red Adams," "Music for Millions" and "Blonde Fever."

The company's 10th block of pictures, which will not be offered until December, has not been decided yet but will be made up of films from among those named. The ninth block is being sold now on the company's new short form contract.

Rodgers amplified his views on the advisability of concentrating on winning new box office patronage among people who attend the theatre infrequently, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Oct. 4. He said there is a possibility that M-G-M will increase production next year "if the market is ready to absorb" more pictures. He expressed the opinion that only good could come from the continuation of the War Activities Committee after hostilities cease and said he continues to hope for unity within the industry.

West Virginia
Exhibitors—Managers—Guests
ATTEND THE
10th ANNUAL CONVENTION
DANIEL BOONE HOTEL
CHARLESTON, W. VA.
Oct. 17th
No Reg. fee and free Banquet
Plate to paid up members
W. VA. MANAGERS ASSOCIATION
J. C. Shanklin, Convention Chairman

63 Leaders Give 6th War Drive Full US Coverage

(Continued from page 1)

Little Rock; California, Gus Metzger, Los Angeles, and Rotus Harvey, San Francisco; Colorado, Wallace Rex, Denver; Florida, J. L. Cartwright, Tampa; Georgia, J. H. Thompson, Hawkinsville; Idaho, Adam Schubert, Gooding, and Walter E. Casey, Bonners Ferry; Illinois, Ed Zorn, Pontiac, and Ed Silverman, Chicago; Indiana, Don Rossiter, Indianapolis; Iowa, A. H. Blank, Des Moines.

Also: Kansas, Howard Jameyson, Wichita; Kentucky, Lew Hensler, Lexington; Louisiana, E. V. Richards, New Orleans; Michigan, Ray Branch, Detroit; Minnesota, E. R. Ruben, Minneapolis; Mississippi, Burgess Waltmon, Columbus, and Arthur Lehmann, Jackson; Missouri, Rex Barrett, Columbia; Marty Burnett, St. Louis, and Elmer Rhoden, Kansas City; Montana, J. A. English, Anaconda; Nebraska, William Miskell and Sam Epstein, Omaha; Nevada, N. Dow Thompson, Reno; New Mexico, George Tucker, Albuquerque; North Dakota, Mike Cooper, Grand Forks, and Ed Krauss, Fargo; Ohio, Charles Raymond, Cleveland; Oklahoma, Ralph Talbot, Tulsa; Oregon, O. J. Miller, Portland.

Also: Rhode Island, Martin Toohey, Pawtucket; South Carolina, Warren Irwin, Columbia; South Dakota, Fred Larkin, Sioux Falls; Tennessee, E. W. Street, Knoxville, and Kermit Stengel, Nashville; Texas, John Q. Adams and Phil Isley, Dallas; Utah, Hall Beatz, Salt Lake City; Washington, Frank Newman, Sr., Seattle; Wyoming, Tom Knight, Riverton.

N. Y. Committee Meets With Kingsberg Today

Malcolm Kingsberg of RKO, New York area chairman for the War Activities Committee in the Sixth War Loan Drive, will meet today with members of his executive committee at the Hotel Astor. Attending the luncheon-meeting will be: Harry Brandt, national industry chairman; William F. Crockett, vice-chairman; co-chairmen Leo Brecher, James M. Brennan, S. H. Fabian, Irving Lesser, Charles C. Moskowitz, Samuel Rinzler, Edward Rugoff, Fred Schwartz, David Weinstock and William White; Major L. E. Thompson, campaign director; Wilbur B. England, campaign co-ordinator, and Harry Mandel, local publicity director.

Wisconsin Drive Opens; Frank Cook Honored

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 10.—Harold J. Fitzgerald, president of Fox Wisconsin Theatres and state chairman of the War Activities Committee held a luncheon at the Athletic Club here today with exhibitors and distributors to give a good send off to the 6th War Loan Drive and to honor 80-year-old Frank Cook, Wisconsin's oldest exhibitor, who was named honorary chairman of the drive.

Fitzgerald suggested continuation of the exhibitor-distributor WAC group in the post-war. He stated that the "War Activities Committee has welded the group together and that contiued cooperation would mean peacetime possibilities in legislative and other mutual benefits."

Bader to Coast on Bond Field Meeting Mission

Dave Bader, 20th Century-Fox publicist, who has been loaned to the national committee for the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan Drive, left last night via plane for Los Angeles. He will act as advance man for the committee's 19 regional city meetings, which get underway the latter part of this month, opening first on the Coast and swinging Eastward.

Willkie Services Here and on Coast

(Continued from page 1)

contents in 1942, and chairman of the 20th-Fox board until his death here Sunday at the age of 52.

Rev. John Sutherland Bonnell, pastor of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, officiated at the services yesterday, after which the remains were started by train for Rushville, Ind., near where Willkie was born, for interment.

The 20th-Fox home office closed for the day at one p.m., and all studios in Hollywood observed silence at noon yesterday, at Pacific Coast time corresponding with the hour of services in New York. Flags atop all studios were lowered to half-staff. The 20th-Fox studios closed for one hour while memorial services were held, attended by executives, talent and workers down the line. Company exchanges in the field closed for one hour, at three, and at the Los Angeles home office and branch offices of National Theatres, two minutes of silence were observed at the hour of the New York services.

Complete Exchange Workers' WLB Pleas

(Continued from page 1)

mitted to the regional WLB here yesterday and the Philadelphia applications will be submitted there today.

With the signing and filing of these applications, the companies and the IATSE have completed applications for "white collarites" in all exchange cities with the exception of Los Angeles where the workers are represented by an AFL union which is not an IATSE affiliate.

The WLB has already approved applications covering Albany and Buffalo workers. The Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, has contracts covering the office workers in New York exchanges of Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Columbia; IATSE Local No. F-51 representing these workers in other exchanges.

Loew's, China Celebrate

Management of Loew's State here will hold a reception tomorrow evening, at the theatre, marking the 23rd birthday of the house, the 33rd anniversary of the Chinese Republic, and the opening of "Dragon Seed."

Shutdown at Five Majors Studios Seen

(Continued from page 1)

or cleaning up schedules on those sets decorated prior to the walkout. Setups completed before the jurisdictional squabble developed are expected to keep the units busy for perhaps 72 more hours. Thereafter, new sets will be required, but there is no one to paint and then decorate them in the five studios affected thus far. Automatic suspension of production, therefore, is inescapable.

No new pictures are being started and future production plans necessarily are blocked until the jurisdictional deadlock is broken. The effect on product on which actual shooting is finished is an uncertain equation also. If laboratory machinery, as a hypothetical case, should suffer a breakdown, release prints will be affected, since the machinists' walkout blocks repairs. Twentieth-Fox, as the fifth affected studio, brings the total of men not at their jobs to approximately 1,000.

In varying degrees, 27 pictures are involved. M-G-M has six, Columbia five, Paramount four, Warners six and 20th-Fox six.

U. S. Steps in

Commissioner Earl Ruddy of the U. S. Labor Conciliation Service held no meetings today, being on a conciliation assignment in another industry.

The office of Thomas Fair Neblett, chairman of the 10th Regional War Labor Board, headquartering at Los Angeles, discussed the issue with the groups involved, but his office asserts that the conference was unofficial. It seems clearly indicated, however, that Neblett is acting under instructions from Washington thereby indicating that the Government is stepping into the situation. The conference lacked results but will continue.

Meanwhile, any possibility that the Screen Publicists Guild will join the walkout in sympathy grows even more remote. The SPG contract with the producers carried a "no strike" clause.

Small Studios Safe

Sorrell stated last night: "The plan was to pull the workers where it would hurt the most. The walkout will probably not affect the smaller studios, like Goldwyn and Monogram."

Cinema Lodge Sets Theatre Party Date

Cinema Lodge No. 1366, B'nai B'rith will hold an annual theatre party at the Alvin Theatre here on Jan. 17. "Sadie Thompson" presented by A. P. Waxman will be shown. Funds derived from the event will be allocated for Cinema's contributions to B'nai B'rith activities including the work of the Anti-Defamation League and War Service, as well as other service and charities.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Sept. 16	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris D—61 mins. (5033)	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357) BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)	(First Block) (1944-'45) RAINBOW ISLAND (color) Eddie Bracken Dorothy Lamour C—96 mins. (4401) TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton D—88 mins. (4402) NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather James Brown C—76 mins. (4403) OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Diana Lynn Gail Russell C—81 mins. (4404) DARK MOUNTAIN Ellen Drew Robert Lowery D—56 mins. (4405)		THAT'S MY BABY Richard Arlen Ellen Drew D—68 mins. (328)	(Seventh Block) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431) BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434) MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432) MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	(Second Block, 1944-'45) (Sept. Releases) SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503) GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505) DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)		MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—60 mins. (9022) (1944-'45)	
Sept. 23	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M—81 mins. (5011)	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (500) (1944-'45)	SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan 67 mins. D—(1944-'45)		GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—56 mins. (1944-'45)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345) STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45) ATLANTIC CITY Constance Moore Brad Taylor M—87 mins. (327)					THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—91 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 30	STRANGE AFFAIR Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D—78 mins. (6016)	(Ninth Block) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins. (501)	TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele O—54 mins. (368)							PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—69 mins. (9019) (1944-'45)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant C—118 mins. (403) (1944-'45)
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M—68 mins. (6028) (1944-'45)	BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502) MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—(504)	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. (1944-'45) WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger 67 mins. D—(1944-'45)			CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake O—56 mins. (3314)				SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—83 mins. (1944-'45)	
Oct. 14	SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch George Zucco D—(1944-'45) 67 mins. (6021)	WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins. (503) MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—118 mins. (505)				CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson O—56 mins. (452) (1944-'45) MY BUDDY Donald Barry D—69 mins. (403)				THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (9030) (1944-'45)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—56 mins. (404) (1944-'45)
Oct. 21	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D—61 mins. (6035) (1944-'45)	KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—103 mins. (506)		(Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins.	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—74 mins (41PS)	STORM OVER LISBON D—86 mins. (323) GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES (re-issue) Gene Autry O—65 mins. (3307)	(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (1944-'45)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins.		BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Kirby Grant Freddy Slack orch. M—70 mins.	
Oct. 28	THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix D—60 mins. (1944-'45)	MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (507)	ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Marjorie Rambeau D—(1944-'45) LAW OF THE VALLEY Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O	(Second Block) FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Color) Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova D—113 mins. (4408) MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds D—84 mins. (4410)	WILD HORSE PHANTOM Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—(1944-'45) I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville C—68 mins. (1944-'45)		(First Block) (1944-'45) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505) NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501)	(Third Block) (1944-'45) (Oct. Release) THE BIG NOISE Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy C—74 mins. (506) IN THE MEAN-TIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Frank Latimore D—72 mins. (507)		THE CLIMAX (Color) Susanna Foster Boris Karloff Turhan Bey D—86 mins.	THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid D—101 mins. (405)
Nov. 4	SGT. MIKE Larry Parks D CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS Charles Starrett O—56 mins.	NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Reissue) Jeannette Mac Donald Nelson Eddy M—80 mins. (508)			I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell D—(1944-'45)	END OF THE ROAD Edward Norris June Storey D—(402) 51 mins.	GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins. (504)			BOWERY TO BROADWAY Donald O'Connor Maria Montez Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey M—96 mins. (502)	
Nov. 11	THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon D			THE MAN IN HALF-MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker D—92 mins. (4407)	BLUEBEARD John Carradine Jean Parker Nils Asther D—(1944-'45)		TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines O—87 mins. (503)	IRISH EYES ARE SMILING Monte Wooley Dick Haymes June Haver M—90 mins. (508)		DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker Paul Kelly D—64 mins.	THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Faye Emerson D—(406)
Nov. 18		(Special) AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards D—151 mins. (510)	ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—(1944-'45)	AND NOW TOMORROW Loretta Young Alan Ladd D—85 mins. (4406) ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker C—76 mins. (4409)	THE GREAT MIKE Robert Henry Stuart Erwin D—73 mins.		THE MASTER RACE Carl Esmond Osa Massen Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey D—96 mins. (502)	Fourth Block (Nov. Release) LAURA Gene Tierney D—(1944-'45) SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Michael O'Shea M THE WAY AHEAD (British) David Niven D		RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford Delta Rhythm Boys D—63 mins.	
Nov. 25										SUSPECT Charles Laughton Ella Raines Dean Harens D	

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses.

THEY NEVER SAW ANYTHING LIKE IT!

NO OTHER HIT IN THE PAST 12 YEARS HAS BEEN HELD FOR A 7TH WEEK AT THE N.Y. STRAND!!

CARY GRANT
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RAYMOND MASSEY · JACK CARSON · PETER LORRE Directed by FRANK CAPRA

PRISCILLA LANE · EDWARD EVERETT HORTON · JAMES GLEASON · JOSEPHINE HULL · JEAN ADAIR · JOHN ALEXANDER

Screen Play by Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein · From the Stage Play by JOSEPH KESSELRING · Produced by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse Music by Max Steiner

WARNER PICTURE

Jack L. Warner
Executive Producer

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 72 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Study World Trade Unit For Industry

Companies Turn Plan Over to Counsels

Formation of an industry foreign trade association, under provisions of the Webb Act, which would be empowered to represent the industry on trade problems in any part of the world, is under study by the general counsel of the companies which distribute internationally. A meeting to further advance the proposal was held at MPPDA headquarters on Wednesday.

The project already has received the tentative approval of company presidents, subject to results of the study now being made by the general counsels of the companies. Indications

(*Continued on page 3*)

Monogram Rentals Rise to $4,300,626

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 12.—Monogram Pictures reports its share of income from rentals reached $4,300,626 in the year ended July 1, compared with $2,567,186 last year, after allowing for commissions to those exchanges which the company does not own, and after deducting salesmen's commissions.

Net for the year was $177,822, after all charges, compared with $99,144 in the preceding period. Net before taxes was $546,835; last year's net was $163,749. Tax provisions, after deducting for postwar refund, were $369,102; last year's tax was $64,605.

Stamp Marks Films' 50th Anniversary

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—The Federal Government has joined in the celebration of the motion picture's 50th anniversary with an announcement by Postmaster General Frank C. Walker that an appropriate commemorative postage stamp will be issued Oct. 31, with "first day" sales only in Hollywood and New York.

The stamp will be of the three-cent denomination, in purple, of the same size and shape as other commemoratives which have been issued this year

(*Continued on page 2*)

Davis to Canada On Deal for Rank

London, Oct. 12. — John Davis, joint managing director of J. Arthur Rank's Odeon Theatres here, is enroute to Canada to attempt to complete arrangements for Rank's acquisition of an interest in a Canadian theatre circuit or a deal on distribution, or both.

Negotiations with Famous Players Canadian and Odeon of Canada were discussed by Rank in Toronto last Summer.

Back in France In Week: Riskin

U. S. film distribution in France, being handled since "D-Day" by the Allied Psychological Warfare Division, will be turned back to American distributors in about "a week or ten days," Robert Riskin, chief of the Office of War Information's motion picture bureau, disclosed here yesterday. This move was forecast in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of Sept. 20, when Riskin said it was only "a matter of weeks."

Riskin revealed that PWD has succeeded in locating many former film personnel of U. S. distributors in France, which information has been transmitted to the companies in New

(*Continued on page 2*)

Republic's 1944-45 Budget to 17-to-20 Millions: H. J. Yates

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 12.—Republic's 1944-45 production budget will run between $17,500,00 to $20,000,000, an increase of between 35 to 50 per cent, according to H. J. Yates, who returned to New York this week from a lengthy stay at the company's studio here.

H. J. Yates

For the first time, Republic will use color, planning three for the new season, budgeted at between $750,000 and $1,500,000 each. The season's top group will include

(*Continued on page 3*)

Agnew, Ginsberg in Sixth Bond Posts

Neil Agnew and Henry Ginsberg have been named co-chairmen for film industry bond sales in the Sixth War Loan $14,000,000,000 campaign, which runs from Nov. 20 through Dec. 16.

Agnew, vice president in charge of distribution for Vanguard Films, and

(*Continued on page 3*)

Thatcher Decision Cited To Void Arbitration

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—A 14-year-old decision of the United States Supreme Court may be resuscitated before the New York Federal District Court next month to buttress the charges of Harry Arthur's St. Louis Amusement Co. that the film consent decree arbitration system is unconstitutional, it was learned here today.

The charges are made in a motion prepared for filing on behalf of Arthur by Russell Hardy, his counsel, to intervene in the pending consent-decree case in the New York court.

Hardy declares here that the present arbitration system, in principle, parallels that followed by the arbitration boards provided for under the Uniform Contract employed in the '20's. That system was held to be in violation of the Sherman Act by the Supreme Court on Nov. 24, 1930, in affirming a decision of the New York District Court, rendered by Judge Thomas D. Thatcher.

In that case the Department of Justice, which is expected next month to oppose Hardy's motion to intervene in the New York decree suit, alleged that distributor defendants conspired to restrain trade by means of an agreement to impose a uniform contract upon all exhibitors, providing for compulsory joint action by the defendants.

The contract called for compulsory arbitration, and no distributor was to sell an exhibitor who failed to obey an arbitration order.

Actions against the St. Louis arbitration board, which has been scheduled for a hearing Nov. 13 on a complaint of Adolph Rosecan in which Hardy's principals are involved may be filed in that city within the next 10 days, Hardy said.

End of Studio Walkout Is Believed Near

Dispute Is Certified To War Labor Board

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 12.—The set decorators walkout affecting five studios up to today is expected to end with the return of the workers before the weekend providing the National War Labor Board notification of certification is received promptly, Ed Mussa, union business manager, said.

Thomas F. Neblett, regional WLB chairman, on the other hand, said that the men must return to work before the NWLB will proceed. The jurisdictional dispute between the Conference of Studio Unions and IATSE over studio set decorators was certified to the War Labor Board in Washington yesterday by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

Pending receipt of the notification of certification, Mussa said, the walkout will not be spread to other studios. The action met with widespread producer approval, the feeling being that studios are "off the spot" and can deal with whatever bargaining agency the government finally determines. Herbert Sorrell, Studio Union Conference head, said: "We'll cooperate with any government agency that will take hold and do something."

Treasury Reports '42 Film Salaries

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—The Treasury Department today made public a supplemental list of individuals receiving compensation in excess of $75,000 for personal services in 1942, which included reports from Columbia, Loew's and Universal.

(Salary figures released represent gross sums and do not reflect the net amount left to individuals after Federal, state and other taxes. On $100,000 annual income the Federal tax is

(*Continued on page 3*)

Reviewed Today

Review of "The Conspirators", Warner Bros., will be found on page 3.

Personal Mention

HAL HORNE, 20th-Fox's advertising-publicity director, is due here Monday from the Coast.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, Warners' assistant general sales manager, has arrived in Oklahoma City, from Memphis, and will leave there today for Dallas.

•

ED HINCHY, head of Warners' playdate department, is in Milwaukee today and will return to New York on Monday.

•

CASEY ROBINSON, M-G-M producer, and his wife, TAMARA TOUMANOVA, have arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

CAPT. BOB WILLIAMS, Army Air Force, formerly of the Warner Bros. publicity department, is in New York awaiting a discharge.

•

HOWARD DIETZ, SI SEADLER and HERBERT CROOKER of M-G-M have returned to New York from Cincinnati.

•

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, Paramount advertising, publicity and exploitation head, will leave California Tuesday for Kansas City and St. Louis.

•

HARRY THOMAS, Monogram's Eastern district manager, was in Chicago this week from New York.

•

JOSEPH MOSKOWITZ, 20th Century-Fox executive, will leave California tomorrow for New York.

•

KING VIDOR and MRS. VIDOR are in New York.

•

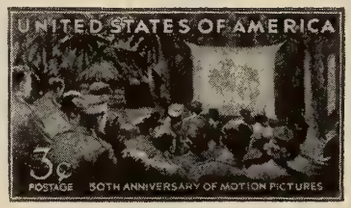
FRANK TUTTLE, director, is en route to Hollywood from New York.

Industry Honor for Sir Alexander King

LONDON, Oct. 12.—Over 300 representatives of all sections of the British industry attended a luncheon at Dorchester House yesterday in honor of Sir Alexander Boyne King, theatre executive, who has been knighted for his services to the Ministry of Information in Scotland.

Speeches extolling Sir Alexander and the industry were made by Brendan Bracken, minister of information; Col. Walter Elliott, ex-secretary of state for Scotland and member of Parliament for King's constituency, and Reginald Baker, president of the Kinematograph Renters Society. Bracken said: "No one possibly can estimate the immensity of the service done by Britain's motion picture industry in bringing victory to the nation and her Allies in this war." S. W. Clift, president of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, presided.

Stamp Marks Films' 50th Anniversary



(Continued from page 1)

—the same height and twice the width of the ordinary stamp.

Bearing the caption "50th Anniversary of Motion Pictures," the stamp will depict a scene familiar to many in the Armed Forces, a motion picture show in the South Pacific. In the background, beside a native hut, a screen is shown hung between two palm trees, on which may be seen two men and a girl.

George J. Schaefer, national chairman of the War Activities Committee, and Francis Harmon, coordinator, were responsible for bringing the anniversary before the attention of the Postal Department. In a letter to Schaefer, Postmaster General Walker praised the industry's contributions in the war effort.

Dales, Berger Leave For Treasury Talks

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 12.—John Dales, Jr., and William Berger, Screen Actors Guild executive counsel and attorney, entrained for Washington yesterday to attend a conference called by the Treasury Department for Tuesday to discuss the proposed amendment to wage stabilization regulations which would require prior approval of all employment deals involving a $1,000 weekly wage or more.

The proposals have been under study since July. Maurice Benjamin and Mendel Silberberg, left Wednesday to attend as producer's representatives. Following the conference Dales and Berger will go to New York to confer with other AAAA affiliates on the proposed merger of all entertainment unions.

Canadian Industry Honors Cohen, Clark

TORONTO, Oct. 12.—Canadian film leaders attended a testimonial dinner Tuesday night at the King Edward Hotel in honor of Wolfe Cohen, formerly general manager for Warners in Canada, and recently promoted to an executive post in the company's foreign department in New York. Cohen was presented with a wrist watch.

Ampere Decision Is Upheld on Appeal

Decision by Lionel Popkin, arbitrator in the New York tribunal, in the clearance complaint by Ampere Theatre, East Orange, N. J., against the five consenting companies, has been affirmed by the Arbitration Appeal Board, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Back in France In Week: Riskin

(Continued from page 1)

York for determination as to whether such men are satisfactory for reconstitution of branch offices in Paris. The companies have designated, in most cases, temporary representatives to take over distribution from PWD.

The OWI will continue to distribute its own war documentaries, Riskin said, but will rely upon facilities of U. S. distributors. Shipping of films to France will remain in the hands of OWI temporarily.

The Italian situation is still uncertain, OWI's overseas film chief said, because transportation there is worse than in France. Film operation in Germany will be a "combined job," Riskin said, probably similar to that in Italy. Although a final plan for Germany has not been determined, it is reasonably certain that all films that have any political content will be seized, he added. Some Nazi features have already been taken, he said, and sent to Army Intelligence and OWI for scrutiny on Nazi propaganda. It is probable that all German theatres will be closed and then gradually reopened.

French Studios Set

Riskin said that reports from France indicated that studios there were in good condition and enough raw stock was available for production to start almost immediately. Parisian film houses are still reported closed, except for three newsreel theatres, because of the power shortage. Elsewhere in France OWI was carrying out a 40 or 50 per cent rental policy for films.

The second edition of the OWI News Review, prepared here, is being made ready for those areas.

Rome now has 136 theatres operating, and the OWI is also distributing in Belgium, he said.

Officers Elected By Allied of Mich.

DETROIT, Oct. 12.—Final meeting of a three-day session of Allied Theatres of Michigan was held at the Book-Cadillac hotel today with an election of officers.

All officers were re-elected, including Ray Branch, president; W. James Olson, vice-president; Edgar E. Kirchner, secretary-treasurer, and Fred E. Pennell, business manager.

A new member was elected to the board, H. S. Gallup of Marquette.

Mary Field, Rank Producer, to U. S.

LONDON, Oct. 12.—Mary Field, producer of instructional films, who has been detailed by J. Arthur Rank to make his parable pictures for children's film clubs, is en route to New York for a lecture tour. While in the United States she will be married to G. T. Hankin, British civil servant, now stationed at the Inter-Allied Food Commission in Washington.

The Season's Surprise Hit!
"MY PAL, WOLF"
with
SHARYN MOFFETT
Jill Esmond Una O'Connor
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Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

PARAMOUNT'S
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay"
starring
Gail RUSSELL - Diana LYNN
with Charlie Ruggles - Dorothy Gish
IN PERSON—FRANK SINATRA
plus Eileen Barton
RAYMOND PAIGE and his orchestra
PARAMOUNT

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St. ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"MUSIC IN MANHATTAN"
ANNE SHIRLEY DENNIS DAY
PHILIP TERRY

STATE
ON SCREEN
PEARL BUCK'S
'DRAGON SEED'
Katharine HEPBURN
Turhan Bey
IN PERSON
HENRY ARMETTA
HARRIET HOCTOR

Gene Tierney - Dana Andrews - Clifton Webb
"LAURA"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Plus on Stage—Hazel SCOTT - Jackie MILES
Jerry WAYNE - HARRISON and FISHER
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VICTORIA
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
20 Century-Fox Picture
WILSON
IN TECHNICOLOR

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Treasury Reports 1942 Salaries of Stars, Executives

(*Continued from page* 1)

approximately 70 per cent. On $500,000 annual income, and over, the Federal tax is approximately 90 per cent.)

Louis B. Mayer, vice-president and studio head of Loew's, was reported as having received $1,138,992. Others were:

Columbia Pictures; year ended June 30, 1943: Brian Aherne, $144,958; Fred Astaire, $75,635; Samuel Bischoff, $91,000; Sidney Buchman, $115,250; Charles Coburn, $91,-666; Harry Cohn, $130,000 salary and $20,-788 other compensation; Jack Cohn, $78,000 salary and $10,394 other compensation; A. L. Hall, $108,458; Joel McCrea, $118,750; Abraham Montague, $78,000; Edward G. Robinson, $129,166; Abraham Schneider, $78,000; William Seiter, $130,000; George Stevens, $101,282; P. J. Wolfson, $87,500; Loretta Young, $85,000.

Loew's, Inc., year ended Aug. 31, 1943: Edward Arnold, $99,583; Wallace Beery, $150,000; Busby Berkeley, $109,875; Pandro S. Berman, $156,000; David Bernstein, $93,-600 salary, $229,430 commission and $10,400 other compensation, total $333,434; Frank Borzage, $79,625; Clarence Brown, $201,933; Edward Buzzell, $78,000; Lenore Coffee, $87,780; J. J. Cohn, $118,416; J. W. Considine, Jr., $123,500; Jack Conway, $209,-118; Joan Crawford, $194,615; George Cukor, $90,850; John S. Cummings, $104,-000; Roy Del Ruth, $83,375; William Dieterle, $156,000; Howard Dietz, $65,000, salary and $13,000 other compensation; Brian Donlevy, $141,250; Tommy Dorsey, $165,817; Irene Dunne, $200,000; Sam Eckman, Jr., $100,000; Victor Fleming, $212,-500; Sidney Franklin, $182,000; Arthur Freed, $104,000; Tay Garnett, $90,101; Greer Garson, $159,083; Cedric Gibbons, $91,000; Ben Goetz, $105,145; Frances Gumm, $89,-666; Katharine Hepburn, $110,333; Arthur Hornblow, Jr., $183,060; Harry James, $128,559; Sam Katz, $156,000, salary and $214,189 commission; Kay Kyser, $99,999; Vincent Lawrence, $100,333; Charles Laughton, $128,562; Robert Z. Leonard, $208,000; Mervyn LeRoy, $182,000; Albert Lewin, $90,-333; Al Lichtman, $156,000 salary and $160,-604 commission; Anita Loos, $86,625; James J. McGuinness, $91,000; Norman McLeod, $92,560; Hedwig K. Mandle, $88,250; Joseph Mankiewiez, $153,000; E. J. Mannix, $158,600 salary and $214,139 commission; J. G. Mayer, $78,000; Louis B. Mayer, $104,-500 salary and $1,034,492 commission, total $1,138,992; Frank Morgan, $185,680; George Murphy, $83,666; Joseph Pasternak, $143,-000; Walter Pidgeon, $99,333; William Powell, $251,250; Harry Rapf, $80,375 salary and $29,472 commission; Samson Raphaelson, $78,750; Gregory Ratoff, $151,388; Everett Riskin, $104,000; Mickey Rooney, $81,-166 salary and $75,000 bonus, total $156,166; William F. Rodgers, $104,000 salary and $11,400 other compensation; J. Robert Rubin, $88,400 salary, $213,927 commission and $15,-600 other compensation; Wesley Ruggles, $210,600; Dore Schary, $97,750; Nicholas M. Schenck, $105,300 salary, $382,391 commission and $24,700 other compensation; Louis K. Sidney, $76,750; Ann Sothern, $84,333; Norman Taurog, $156,000; Robert Taylor, $176,-983; Benjamin Thau, $91,000 salary and $107,069 commission; Richard Thorp, $91,000; Spencer Tracy, $219,871; Dalton Trumbo, $76,250; Lana Turner, $87,000; W. S. Van Dyke, $109,083; King Vidor, $208,000; L. Weingarten, $169,000 salary and $53,534 commission; Carey Wilson, $107,000; Robert Young, $18,500; Sam Zimbalist, $94,208.

Universal Pictures, year ended Oct. 31, 1943: Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, $208,000 salary and $581,628 other compensation; Frank Borzage, $95,833; N. J. Blumberg, $112,666 salary and $126,553 other compensation; Charles Boyer, $80,000; Leo Carrillo, $87,208; J. Cheever Cowdin, $112,671 salary and $126,553 other compensation; Edna Mae Durbin, $282,250; Julian E. Duvivier, $130,-000; Henry Koster, $103,000; Ole Olsen and Chic Johnson, $100,000 salary and $51,795 other compensation; Randolph Scott, $132,-187; Charles D. Prutzman, $73,200 salary and $62,959 other compensation, total $136,-159; Joseph Seidelman, $73,200 salary and $62,959 other compensation, total $136,159; Franchot Tone, $101,111; Walter F. Wanger, $77,500 salary and $632,872 other compensation, total $710,372; Cliff Work, $99,666 salary and $62,959 other compensation.

Montague Setting Deal

Los Angeles, Oct. 12.—A. Montague, Columbia general sales manager, is discussing a distribution deal here with Fox West-Coast Theatres.

Review

"The Conspirators"

(*Warner Bros.*) *Hollywood, Oct.* 12

LISBON, the European gateway to America and freedom, is the locale of this spy-and-underground melodrama caparisoned with the mysterious flourishes and adornments for which the tall tales of the E. Phillips Openheim school were known.

The principals are about as standard, too, in this film based on a novel by Fredric Prokosch. Paul Henreid, member of the Dutch underground, is the hero. Hedy Lamarr, married to Victor Francen, is the feminine allure—and that's the word for it. Francen, attached to the German Embassy, presumably is an undercover agent enrolled in the cause of the Allies. Sydney Greenstreet is the funnel through whom Allied agents clear. Peter Lorre is one of his aides.

The pivot of the narrative swirls around Henreid's escape from Holland through France and Spain to Portugal on his way to London. Miss Lamarr apparently is on the side which does not want Henreid to make the grade. Only she isn't, as the footage unreels in due time. Francen turns out to be a Nazi disciple merely posing as an agent of the democracies. In the end, he gets his from spewing revolvers, Henreid foregoes London for a return trip to Holland while Miss Lamarr, her love now joined with his, awaits his reapparance in faithful resignation to the war and its exactments.

THE story line, however, is embroidered and occasionally snarled with knots thrown in for purposes of audience entanglement. Because Miss Lamarr's exact position is not divulged during the early stretches, Henreid is at cross purposes with her. Because Francen is not established for what he is until the finish, another surprise element enters. In fact, the long sequence leading to his uncovering is the most tense portion of a film of varying intensity. It takes place in a gambling casino. Allied champions know a traitor lurks somewhere about. All hands are suspected, particularly Henreid who had been accused of a murder rap ahead of all this. When the traitor places his bets on numbers which combine into the number of the hotel room where the rendezvous is slated to take place, he exposes himself. That's Francen, and for him the end expresses into sight.

The attraction is mounted most attractively. The strong cast—a strong advertising angle—also includes Joseph Calleia, Carol Thurston, Edward Ciannelli, Steven Geray, Kurt Katch and Gregory Gay and handles itself with competence. Jean Negulesco's direction meshed representatively with the somewhat outmoded story thereby making the overall result one of satisfaction from the audience point of view. "The Conspirators" ought to do all right. Jack Chertok produced.

Running time 103 minutes. "G"*. Release date, Oct. 31. RED KANN

*"G" denotes general classification.

O'Connor Commends Bernhard, Industry

Joseph Bernhard, general manager of Warner Theaters and chairman of the industry's 1944 Red Cross drive, made public yesterday a commendation by Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American Red Cross, for the job done by the industry in the last drive. Bernhard said that the tribute from O'Connor was meant to apply to all in the business who had a hand in the campaign.

"The fact it is the largest sum ever collected by the industry for a national charity is ample evidence not only of the generosity of the American people but of the immense effort and careful planning of you and your associates," O'Connor told Bernhard.

Hesse Rites Today

Funeral services for Joseph Hesse, 68, industry accountant for over 25 years, will be held today in Bogota, N. J., from the home of his sister in that city. Hesse, who was last in the accounting department of Skivo Productions, Inc., died Tuesday after a long illness. He was formerly an auditor with Educational Films and Grand National.

Charles Amos, 53, Dies

NASHVILLE, Oct. 12.—Charles H. Amos, 53, manager of Crescent's Paramount here for the past 14 years, died Tuesday after an illness of several weeks.

Kingsberg Names N.Y. Bond Group

Malcolm Kingsberg, War Activities Committee New York area chairman for the Sixth War Loan drive, met with his executive committee—Leo Brecher, James Brennan, S. H. Fabian, Irving Lesser, Charles C. Moskowitz, Samuel Rinzler, Edward Rugoff, Fred Schwartz, David Weinstock and William White—at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here Wednesday, and announced the following appointments: Major L. E. Thompson, campaign director; Wilbur B. England, campaign co-ordinator; Harry Mandel, publicity director; Edward C. Dowden, special events; Ernest Emerling, War Finance liason; Peter Finney, Treasury Department liaison; Irving Lesser, Broadway chairman; James Sauter, talent coordinator; Leonard Goldenson, corporate chairman; W. Stewart McDonald, home office chairman; Garrett Van Wagner, accounting chairman; Mike Rosen, labor relations chairman; John A. Cassidy, press liaison; Edward Rugoff and David Weinstock, issuing agents and Ralph Pielow, distributor liaison.

Also attending the meeting were Harry Brandt, Max Cohen, John Hertz, Jr., William Crockett, Max Youngstein and Herman Schleier who discussed plans of the industry's national committee.

Agnew, Ginsberg in Sixth Bond Posts

(*Continued from page* 1)

a member of the board of United Artists, will be in charge sales in the industry in the East. Ginsberg, vice president and general manager in charge of studio operations at Paramount, has been in charge of industry sales on the Coast in several previous drives.

Meanwhile national industry Sixth War Loan headquarters here reports that David O. Selznick, Alfred Hitchcock, Jennifer Jones and Sydney Longstreet, author, are preparing the first of a series of Sixth War Loan trailers, titled "The Fighting Generation," being produced in Hollywood under the supervision of the War Activities Committee, Hollywood Division, of which John Flinn is co-ordinator. It will be available free to all exhibitors from local National Screen exchanges.

Films' Foreign Trade Association Studied

(*Continued from page* 1)

at this time are that it will be cleared by counsel and formally established before the end of the year.

Establishment of an industry foreign trade association is not related to, nor designed to affect the companies' earlier plan to appoint trade representatives to the various leading world capitals. The latter plan was approved by the company presidents last Spring and will proceed, entirely apart from the outcome of the formation of a foreign trade association, it was stated.

Under the Webb Act, the new association, if and when formed, must be registered with the Federal Trade Commission in Washington. It will permit the companies to act in concert in any part of the world in which problems affecting one or several of the companies may arise. The project was considered by the companies about four years ago but was dropped, largely because of world conditions at the time. It is being revived now in the light of the industry's current and probable postwar problems in world markets.

Republic's Budget to 17 to 20 Millions

(*Continued from page* 1)

"Lake Placid Serenade," "Earl Carroll's Vanities," "Hit Parade of 1945," "The Fabulous Texan," "The Iron Master," "Mexicana," "Belle of the Gold Coast," "Glory Road," "Storm Over Lisbon," and "Calendar Girl."

Yates foresees a "natural slump as being an inevitable development immediately following the war's end," but predicted it will be temporary only. "Foreign grosses a year after peace will treble due to the lack of European production facilities in view of the tremendous need for entertainment."

Yates prophesied that grosses ten years after the end of the war will make today's "small by comparison."

Now

OVER 150 PRECEDENT-BREAKING ENG

20th CENTURY-FOX

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

NTS...IN BIG CITIES...IN SMALL TOWNS...HAVE PROVED THAT EVERYWHERE

Darryl F. Zanuck's

WILSON

in Technicolor

Directed by HENRY KING Written by LAMAR TROTTI

IS THE MOST IMPORTANT BOX-OFFICE EVENT IN 50 YEARS OF MOTION PICTURE ENTERTAINMENT!

Chicago Good, But 'Brown' Is Better: $21,000

CHICAGO, Oct. 12.—Business is holding up well in the Loop, with "Casanova Brown" on top, building into a long-run at the Woods. It grossed $26,700 in the first week, topping earlier estimates, and attracted a heavy $21,000 in its second week. "Janie" opened nicely at the Roosevelt. "Heavenly Days" has been hurt by uniformly bad reviews.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 12:

"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,400).

"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
CHICAGO — (3,850) (55c-85c-95c) Stage: Perry Como and Revue. 2nd week. Gross: $41,000. (Average: $51,500).

"The Last Ride" (WB)
DOWNTOWN — (1,600) (44c-55c-85c-95c) Stage: Duke Ellington and band. Gross: $20,000.

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Secret Command" (Col.) 5 days, 3rd week
"Summer Storm" (UA) 2 days
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,100).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.) 3rd Loop week
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,100).

"My Buddy" (Rep.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c) Stage: Tony Pastor and band, and Jean Parker. Gross: $34,500. (Average: $24,000).

"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
PALACE — (2,500) (55c-65c-95c) Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,000).

"Janie" (WB)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
STATE LAKE — (2,700) (55c-65c-95c) Gross: $30,000. (Average: $29,000).

"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000).

"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $10,000).

Legion Classifies Five New Films

The National Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: A-1, "Gangsters of the Frontier," PRC, and "Meet Miss Bobby Socks," Columbia; A-2, "The Master Race," RKO, and "The Unwritten Code," Columbia; B, "Thunder Rock," Charter Film Productions—English Films.

MPAC Names Chadwick

ATLANTA, Oct. 12—A. E. Chadwick has been named vice-president of Motion Picture Advertising Co. here.

Toronto Is Static But Not 'Climax'

TORONTO, Oct. 12.—"The Climax" had a local premiere at the Uptown Theatre during the week and, with a midnight show added for Canada's Thanksgiving Day, on Monday, the run pointed to $13,800.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 12:

"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Janie" (WB)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $12,800).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,700. (Average: $11,200).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 6th week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $12,800).

"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,900. (Average: $4,400).

"The Climax" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $9,800).

Providence Gives $20,000 to 'SYWA'

PROVIDENCE, Oct. 12.—"Since You Went Away," with $20,000 for its second week at Loew's State, is still leading the local list.

Estimated grosses for the week ending Oct. 13:

"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
RKO - ALBEE — (2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,800).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,700).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Gambler's Choice" (Para.)
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,500).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (76c-80c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $12,100).

"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Majestic. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $4,000).

"Song of Nevada" (Rep.)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. On stage: Anthony and Rogers, Ed Ricard, Lynn and Larry, Judy and Neyna, Ray Douglas, John Argo. Gross: $7,900. (Average: $6,500).

"Waterfront" (PRC)
METROPOLITAN — (3,050) (55c-70c) 3 days. On stage: George Paxton's Orchestra, The Modernaires, Henry Armetta, Sophisticated Ladies. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,900).

'Irish Eyes' Premiere

CLEVELAND, Oct. 12—"Irish Eyes Are Smiling," 20th-Fox, will be given its world premiere in Cleveland at Warners' Hippodrome on Nov. 2, according to the local 20th-Fox exchange. Cleveland was the home of Ernest Ball, protagonist of the film.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING
OF
"GIRL RUSH"
Wed., Oct. 18, at 11 A.M.
RKO PROJECTION ROOM, 630 Ninth Ave., New York, N. Y.

Disney, Temple Set For N. Y. Forum

Walt Disney will describe the use of motion pictures in rehabilitation work and Shirley Temple will speak on "The Responsibility of the Motion Picture" at the New York *Herald Tribune's* annual forum on current problems which starts next Monday at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel here.

Disney's address is set for the opening forum session which has as its theme "Twelve Million Veterans—A New Force." Miss Temple will talk the following day during the forum which has as its theme "Leadership Through Young Minds." Ruth Clifton, originator of the Moline (Ill.) plan to combat juvenile delinquency, will describe the work of the Moline Youth Center at the same forum session.

RKO Resumes Talks On Managers' Union

Monroe Goldwater, attorney for RKO in its negotiations with Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistant managers in the 41 RKO theatres in the Metropolitan New York and Westchester area and representatives of that union will meet with RKO officials today instead of bringing the New York State Board of Mediation into the controversy immediately, to resolve the impasse that developed when negotiations started last week.

RKO officials, when presented with union demands last week, are understood to have deferred discussion until the duties of managers and assistants of RKO theatres involved in the collective bargaining unit are redefined.

'SYWA' Bests Storm, Gets Big $18,000

BALTIMORE, Oct. 12—A substantial start for the week's business was upset when a heavy downpour started just before Saturday night's peak hour. It continued all evening and proved a serious setback. That situation, along with leading attractions holding over kept receipts to no better than average. "Since You Went Away" continues tops with $18,000 for its second week at the Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 12:

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Gypsy Wildcast" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (76c-$1.10) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average at regular prices: $9,000).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,000).

"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage Show: "Gay 90's Revue," starring Ella Shields. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,500).

"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).

"The Soul of a Monster" (Col.)
VALENCIA—(1,466) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

'Abroad with 2 Yanks' on Top In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 12.—No excitement here, box-office wise. "Abroad With Two Yanks" did a fair $63,400 at the Carthay Circle-Chinese-Loew's State-Uptown combination whose aggregate normal is $61,300.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 11:

"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
"Enemy of Women" (Mono.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,700. (Average: $11,200).

"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
"Enemy of Women" (Mono.)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,500).

"Kismet" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,500).

"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
"Dead Man's Eyes" (Univ.)
HAWAII — (1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $6,200).

"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,700).

"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
"Enemy of Women" (Mono.)
LOEW'S STATE: (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $29,500. (Average: $24,100).

"Kismet" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES — (2,095) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,900).

"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $16,700).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD — (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $20,300)

"Kismet" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,400. (Average: $8,700).

"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
"Enemy of Women" (Mono.)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $10,500).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,396. (Average: $17,000).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,874. (Average: $18,700).

WARNER WILTERN — (2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,098. (Average: $15,200).

'Romance' Premiere Held in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Oct. 12.—Players in the film, M-G-M executives, representatives of the local industry, the press and others from 12 cities attended the M-G-M banquet and preview of "An American Romance" here last night at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel.

Home office officials who attended were: Howard Dietz, Silas F. Seadler, William R. Ferguson, Herbert Crooker and Oscar Doob. From the New York publicity office were: William Ornstein, Bill Danziger, Charles David, Volney Phifer and Roy Olsen. Others who attended included: John J. Maloney, Central sales manager; Henderson Richey, exhibitor relations director; Foster Gauker, Indianapolis manager; Jack Sogg, Cleveland manager, and Charles Dietz, Detroit exploiteer.

M-G-M's KISMET

M-G-M's KISMET

M-G-M's KISMET

"LEO BE PRAISED!"

The record-breaking ASTOR performance of M-G-M's KISMET has been repeated in Los Angeles and Philadelphia . . . so now get ready to give your engagement the tops in showmanship for a long and happy run. Another hit from Leo!

Keep Selling Bonds!

Official U.S. Marine Corps Photo

You have to stick your neck out for "shots" like this

COMBAT movie men in our Armed Forces are in the thick of every engagement. They've wallowed ashore at Anzio, Tarawa, and Saipan, parachuted to earth in France. They're getting some of the greatest shots of all time . . . shots that are proving invaluable in training . . . in planning future strategy . . . shots that bring the war home to all of us when they flash on the theater screen. No praise can be too high for the industry-trained cameramen who unhesitatingly and constantly stick their necks out to make the most complete photographic record of a war ever attempted.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 73 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1944 TEN CENTS

SMPE Aims at Low Theatre Cost on Video

Would Mould System on Present Booth Lines

The Society of Motion Picture Engineers is understood to be determined to at least attempt to have television equipment eventually intended for theatres developed as close as possible along the lines of film-sound projection systems.

In order to make it possible for theatres to install television projector systems in theatres at minimum of cost, the SMPE, it is learned, will place emphasis on the use of as much existing sound and projection booth equipment as possible in developing television for theatres.

The engineers have taken the position, it is understood, that the possible extensive practical utilization of television programs in theatres would be

(*Continued on page* 5)

S. Dembow Named Aide to War Dept.

Sam Dembow, Jr., Paramount theatre executive, has been named civilian consultant to the Secretary of War, attached to the motion picture branch of the Industrial Services Division, succeeding Arthur L. Mayer, who resigned to become deputy commissioner of the Red Cross in the Pacific Islands area.

The branch, which shares headquarters with the War Activities Committee here, is headed by Major Monroe Greenthal. Function of the branch, part of the Army's bureau of public relations, is the supplying of 16mm prints of War Department-produced films to war plants as an industrial incentive.

Stanley Hatch Gets Clark Post at WB

Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager for Warner Bros., announced over the weekend that Stanley Hatch had been promoted to head of the contract sales department, taking over the duties recently handled by Ralph Clark, who was elevated to Canadian division manager, and that Arthur S. Jones has been moved up to head the contract department, filling Hatch's post.

Distributors Demand Equality Abroad

"The basic intention of American distributors in their current planning of a place in foreign markets when peace comes is to obtain an equality of opportunity among nations," a spokesman for the organized industry declared over the weekend.

The executive, importantly connected in the current formulation of a postwar program, declared that "the American industry seeks no special 'breaks' abroad for its films, but does demand equality in markets."

Set First 7 Loan Meets

The industry's Sixth War Loan drive committee has completed the itinerary and personnel for the first seven of 19 scheduled regional key city campaign meetings which will open in Los Angeles Oct. 23. Each meeting will be attended by exchangemen and exhibitors.

Following is the schedule of the first seven meetings and executive members who will attend each:

Los Angeles, Ambassador Hotel, Oct. 23, exhibitor state chairmen Gus Metzger, Harry Nace, George Tucker; Harry Brandt, national chairman; William F. Crockett, assistant chairman; Ned E. Depinet, distribution division chairman; S. H. Fabian, theatre division chairman; John Hertz,

(*Continued on page* 10)

Lawrence, Miggins, Lange, Hummel In Old Paris Posts

The declaration last week by Robert Riskin, chief of the Office of War Information's overseas film bureau, that return of French distribution to the film industry is imminent, will, it is understood, start an exodus of former European managers back to the Continent, as soon as General Eisenhower lifts his ban on traveling from London to Europe by business men. Riskin said that he expected this restriction to be lifted shortly.

Several distributors have plans to reinstate their European managers in former posts. Laudy Lawrence, former M-G-M Continental manager now serving with the OWI, is slated

(*Continued on page* 8)

Schine Anti-Trust Trial Nears End

BUFFALO, Oct. 15.—The Schine anti-trust trial, now nearing its close in Federal District court here, was enlivened on Friday by a parade of former exhibitors to the witness stand, most of whom testified that they went out of business as a result of Schine competitive tactics but who, apparently, had their testimony qualified, if not discredited, under cross-examination by defense counsel later.

John C. Herzberger, former operator of the Auditorium at Perry, N. Y., said Schine had offered $5,000 for the lease after buying a lot in Perry with the intent of building a 1,000-seat theatre. The witness said the of-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Hundreds Seen Benefiting by New WLB Rule

Approval for Raises Up To New Rate Ranges

Film companies here and unions in the industry which are seeking to institute systems of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales and progression plans for workers, are seen benefiting by a new War Labor Board ruling which directs regional WLBs to withhold approval of voluntary wage-progression schedules only when the increase raises an employe to the top of a rate range in less than 12 months for unskilled, 18 months for semi-skilled and 24 months for skilled jobs.

In enunciating such a policy, although described as being

(*Continued on page* 10)

Studio Strike Ends; Hearing in 3 Weeks

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Decorators, painters and machinists, totaling about 1,000, returned to their jobs Friday following walkouts that began over a week ago at the M-G-M studios and spread to Columbia, Paramount, Warners and 20th Century-Fox. As a result, production has been resumed at the pre-strike level.

National War Labor Board hearings, accepted by Ed Mussa of the Set

(*Continued on page* 10)

75% of Theatres Plan to Stay Open on 'V-E' Day

Motion picture theatres will remain open in 75 per cent of the major cities on 'V-E' Day, a survey by MOTION PICTURE DAILY reveals.

In New York City, Harry Brandt has been appointed representative of the managers of Broadway film houses, and will call a meeting of operators and managers to implement the Mayor's request that show "breaking" hours be staggered on the night of victory in Europe to help keep street crowds under control during show-closing hours.

In Philadelphia, plans are not formulated yet for theatres but sirens will sound throughout the city and a celebration of thanksgiving at Independence Hall will be broadcast from coast to coast.

In Illinois-Indiana, Publix-Great States Theatres will remain open unless audiences get out of control and hoodlums attempt to take over the theatres. In Baltimore announcements will be made from the stage of the theatres and ticket selling will be suspended temporarily.

The Schine Circuit will remain open on 'V-E' Day and spot announcements will be made from stages of the theatres.

Los Angeles differs from the majority of cities, however, and will close all theatres as soon as the news is flashed.

Cohen Appointed By Silverstone to S. A.

Murray Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution for 20th Century-Fox, announced at the weekend the appointment of Edward Cohen, as manager in Panama and supervisor for Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Peru and Bolivia. The remainder of the Western Hemisphere below the Rio Grande is under the supervision of Joseph Mullen, with headquarters in Mexico City.

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "The Very Thought of You," Warner Bros., will be found on page 5; also "Alaska," Monogram, and "Code of the Prairie," Republic, on page 8.

Personal Mention

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, has arrived in Hollywood to resume studio conferences which were interrupted last week by his trip to attend Wendell Willkie's funeral.

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TOM J. CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of sales, has returned to New York from Hollywood. CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th's advertising manager, also has returned.

•

L. J. HACKING, Altec's New England district manager, of Boston, and C. S. PERKINS, manager of Altec's electronic division at Lexington, Mass., are in Hollywood.

•

JACK KIRSCH, president of Allied of Illinois and a national co-chairman of the Sixth War Loan drive, will join the drive committee caravan in Omaha on Oct. 27.

•

HERMAN KERSKEN, manager of the San Francisco division of Fox West Coast Theatres, has returned to his headquarters after four weeks in New York.

•

FELIX GREENFIELD of the Warner publicity department and MRS. GREENFIELD are parents of a girl born Friday at Israel Zion Hospital, Brooklyn.

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SERGEANT ED KENNEDY of RKO's home office foreign department, reported missing in action, has been located in a German prison camp.

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MURRAY SILVERSTONE, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, is due here tomorrow from the Coast.

•

H. M. HERBEL, Warner's Western division manager, with headquarters in Los Angeles, is visiting in Salt Lake City.

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BEN KALMENSON, Warner's general sales manager, returned at the weekend from a visit to Midwest branches.

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SIDNEY BIDILL, executive producer for CECIL B. DEMILLE, has returned to Hollywood after four weeks here.

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HARRY ARTHUR, head of the St. Louis Amusement Co., arrived in New York at the weekend from St. Louis.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY, International Pictures' Eastern publicity representative, has returned from Cincinnati.

•

ROGER FERRI, editor of 20th Century-Fox's *"Dynamo,"* returned from the Coast over the weekend.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia's assistant general sales manager, will leave today for Charlotte.

•

MIKE TODD, producer, has returned here from Hollywood.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

IF American exhibitors needed a warning that higher Federal admission taxes continue to be a very live subject in Washington, it was furnished them last week by the Treasury Department itself.

Reporting from Quigley Publications Washington Bureau, Bertram F. Linz wrote: "The Treasury Department today issued a comparative analysis of English and American admission taxes, showing that the former range as high as five times as much as is imposed on tickets in this country."

The Treasury's "statement" went on to cite examples of taxation imposed upon British theatres and made its own comparison of such taxes with those in effect here.

There was nothing in the Treasury Department's statement to indicate that, perhaps, the Department believes that British theatres are grossly and unfairly overtaxed by their government and that the British ex-chequer would do well to lower the admission tax to the level in effect in the United States. There was no hint in the Treasury Department statement that it entertains the belief that the British film industry would be healthier, stronger and better fitted for competition in the world film markets if its tax burden was less than it is; nothing to suggest that the Treasury believes that the American industry is economically sound at home and its films the first choice of the world's motion picture audiences because our taxes are or have been lower than Britain's.

•

No, my friends. That Treasury statement is nothing more nor less than a "softener-upper," the "one" of the well known old one-two. There will be more like it between now and the time the next Federal budget and revenue bills are prepared. The "two" will arrive in the form of a Treasury request for a 30 per cent Federal admission tax, or a recommendation for a 40 per cent tax made in the hope of an eventual settlement at 30 per cent.

Current Federal admission taxes are bringing the Treasury more than $30,000,000 per month, which puts the box office high on the list of revenue producers. An increase of the tax to 30 per cent could will bring the annual collections from the box office into the half-billion dollar revenue stratosphere, the *Treasury experts figure.*

But what, actually, would be the result of a Federal admission tax of 30 per cent? One guide to the answer to that is the experience of cabarets, night clubs, etc., with the 30 per cent tax. Hundreds of them throughout the country closed their doors and went out of business. It is not unreasonable to suppose that a similar experience in excessive taxation awaits the box office.

•

And is exhibition prepared to meet this threat? One segment of exhibition faltered at the strategic moment last Spring when a unified theatres' tax defense council was taking shape. Another segment of the industry, the MPPDA Washington office, viewed exhibition's tax defense plan as a pre-emption of its own sphere of influence, and dealt the plan its *coup de grace.* In so doing, that office assumed a responsibility which few, if any, in exhibition feel it can discharge successfully.

There is nothing in the pretensions of the MPPDA Washington office to exclude or deflect exhibitor leaders in every section of the country from banding together now to prepare the defense of their box offices from the coming tax gouge attempt. If that Washington office has help to offer it should blend its efforts with exhibition's, if and when it may be asked to do so. Its stake in the outcome is a vital one, too. But the fight is exhibition's.

• •

There is nothing to be added to the tributes which have been paid to Wendell Willkie except, perhaps, those which all reporters who knew him or had occasion to go to him for information in the course of their work are agreed upon. Willkie's consideration for reporters was unfailing. He was never "too busy," never too big to make himself accessible to the press. For that, he was liked and respected by newspapermen everywhere for, in their experience, all too often it is the little men who are uncommunicative and the "phonies" who do the dodging of newsmen on the trail of facts and verities.

President to Try To Force Petrillo

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—President Roosevelt has initiated a legal study to determine whether any further action is possible to compel James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, to comply with his request that he call off his ban on records of RCA Victor and Columbia Recording, who have not yet signed agreements with the AFM.

In disclosing that the Department of Justice is studying the matter, Roosevelt said there are about 40 laws to be reviewed in the search for a means of forcing settlement of the controversy of more than two years standing.

Lieut. Jack Bernhard Here for New Job

First Lieutenant Jack L. Bernhard, son of Joseph Bernhard, Warner Bros. vice-president and theatre head, is now in New York awaiting reassignment after completing 133 fighter missions with the RAF and the AAF. With him is his wife, the British film star, Jean Gillie.

Lt. Bernhard, 29, a former Universal writer, director and producer, joined the RAF in March 1942. He shot down five German planes and later was commissioned in the AAF. He holds the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster and the Air Medal with three stars.

RKO, Manager Union Start Contract Talks

Contract negotiations opened here at the weekend between RKO and representatives of Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistant managers of 41 RKO theatres in Metropolitan New York.

The Guild is asking for a 20 per cent wage increase, a minimum wage scale of $115 per week for managers and $75 for assistant managers, a 40-hour week and other conditions.

Altec Starts 5-Day Coast Meet Today

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Altec Service Corp. and Altec Lansing will start a five-day conference here tomorrow for the first time in Hollywood with 35 national representatives attending. The meetings will be held at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel.

Postwar electronic advances forthcoming in recording and reproducing will be discussed. Delegates will inspect Paramount studio's sound department tomorrow, and will visit M-G-M Tuesday.

No Award Participation

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—The Producers Association will have no "connection or interest" in the Western Motion Picture Awards Association presentations scheduled for Nov. 5 at the Hollywood Bowl and no association members will participate, the AMMP said at the weekend.

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JEANNE
CRAIN
your
"Home In Indiana"
sweetheart
is WONDERFUL in

The gay tender story of furlough love

JEANNE CRAIN in

IN THE MEANTIME, DARLING

Mr. and Mrs. G.I. on a honeymoon—

with FRANK LATIMORE
EUGENE PALLETTE
MARY NASH *and*
Stanley Prager • Gale Robbins
Jane Randolph • Doris Merrick
Cara Williams

Produced and Directed by OTTO PREMINGER
Original Screen Play by Arthur Kober and Michael Uris

LIFE *in a big 4-page feature recently told its 15 million readers about Jeanne Crain's spectacular rise as a star!*

a swell angle to sell...in a swell picture to play from 20th CENTURY-FOX

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Schine Anti-Trust Trial Nears End

(*Continued from page* 1)

fer was refused but the theatre subsequently was sold to "Osborne and Dipson," who later disposed of it to Schine.

Cross-examined by Edward F. McClennen of defense counsel, Herzberger admitted that the Auditorium had been improved by its new owners at a cost of several thousand dollars, and its seating capacity increased, thereby eliminating the occasion for construction of a new theatre in the town.

Walter A. Smith, another witness, testified that student tickets sold by a Schine theatre at Corning, N. Y., at reduced rates captured the juvenile trade in nearby Addison and that distributors refused him permission to play their films at 10 cents in an effort to win back the trade.

Charles Martina, former operator of the Empire, Syracuse, described his difficulties in obtaining product for the house, because of commitments to Schine, and said he lasted "only three weeks and six days," the Empire later being taken over by Schine.

Poor Credit Rating

On cross examination, Saul Rogers of defense counsel, succeeded in discrediting Martina throughout on the basis of his having gone through bankruptcy and having had a poor credit rating not only with distributors, but with stage show personnel he had employed.

Earlier, Hubert Wallace, operator of the Capitol, Auburn, N. Y., for 14 years, told of having been unable to get product because distributors preferred to sell to the Schine circuit, in some instances against the wishes of their local representatives, he said.

Federal Judge John C. Knight is scheduled to rule tomorrow on approval of the recent sale of four Schine theatres under the government disposal agreement with the circuit. The government has opposed the sale, contending it does not fully comply with the agreement.

Paramount's 'Dance' Has Radio Premiere

CHICAGO, Oct. 15.—Paramount's "National Barn Dance" had its world premiere Saturday night via the air waves in what is reported to be "the first radio premiere of a motion picture." The picture was shown to a regular radio audience attending the "National Barn Dance" show broadcast from the WLS Playhouse here.

The entire radio troupe participated in the affair as the highlight of the national promotional campaign for the picture. Robert Benchley, featured in the film, appeared on the show, which was broadcast over 61 NBC stations. R. M. Gillham, Paramount advertising and publicity director, with Walter Wade of the Wade agency and George Cook of WLS were in charge of arrangements.

Another Clean Slate

CHICAGO, Oct. 15.—For the second consecutive month the local censor board has not rejected any pictures viewed. The report for September indicates that the board reviewed 85 pictures and classified in the adult group M-G-M's reissue of "Waterloo Bridge."

Review

"The Very Thought of You"

(*Warner Bros.*) *Hollywood, Oct.* 15

AUDIENCE satisfaction looks like an assured factor in the case of "The Very Thought of You." Here's why:

A strong love story, unfolded by Eleanor Parker and Dennis Morgan with tenderness, under assured direction of Delmer Daves.

Excellent comedy relief at the hands of Dane Clark who wraps up the picture when he is before the camera. Faye Emerson is his counterfoil.

Timeliness in content, for this one deals with wartime marriages proceeding from a keynote sounded by Henry Travers. This is his keynote: People live, love, marry and die through famine, pestilence, revolution, good times and bad times; therefore, why not through war as well? This sets the romantic leads on their marital way, despite the briefest of honeymoon interludes eventuating in a wartime child. The approach to a national problem, as treated by Lionel Wiggam in his original story, actually solves not a single thing, but it does brush aside obstacles in the path of the principals and makes "The Very Thought of You" possible.

Narrative-wise, there isn't much to it. Incident, which has practically no bearing on progressing the slight plot, therefore, is resorted to in order to cover ground. But this is where Clark and those juicy pieces of business enter. The business is so good and the actor so adept at it that the precision with which the pieces fit turns out to be a matter of minor importance.

Shooting off the main line is Miss Parker's sister whose husband has been on carrier duty for two years. She and her situation illustrate the unsuccessful war marriage in contrast to the happy Parker-Morgan combination until the sailor-husband unexpectedly returns and the estrangement is eliminated via reunion. In their separate ways and by their individual approaches, both girls find happiness.

Performances are uniformly good with the emphasis directed decidedly toward Clark and Georgia Lee Settle, who plays the adolescent, but wise, younger sister. The principals include Travers, Beulah Bondi, William Prince, Andrea King and John Alvin.

Daves' direction is knowingly geared to standard audience reactions. With Alvah Bessie, he also wrote the screenplay which is wordier than it need have been. In its length, the attraction runs to more time than is required to convey its many good moments. Jerry Wald produced.

Running time, 100 mins. "G."* Release date, Nov. 1. RED KANN

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Sees Video Hitting 16mm Film Makers

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—"The greatest impact of television upon the film industry" was seen at the weekend by Paul Raibourn, Paramount Pictures economist and engineer, as falling upon 16mm pictures in homes or schools.

Addressing a meeting of Government officials interested in 16mm activities, Raibourn said: "Television may supplement motion picture theatre programs, and motion picture companies may make films for television, so that the two media are more likely to help rather than hurt each other, but the use of television in the home and school may destroy the hope of the film industry for an ever-expanding market."

"At present," he said, "television visually is imperfect as compared to theatre pictures, although this may be overcome in time, but is probably better even now than 16mm films under ordinary conditions."

Central Casting Hit Record in August

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Central Casting Corp., through which studios hire extras, had its busiest month in August when dollar value on placements was $523,165. This is approximately $115,000 more than July and compares with September, 1943, the previous high, when expenditures were $436,500. Average daily placements of extras in August was 1,399 at an average daily wage of $12.46.

Aims at Low Cost Of Theatre Video

(*Continued from page* 1)

extremely difficult if theatres must expend between $25,000 and $35,000 for a complete new installation.

The SMPE's projection practice committee intends to go direct to the potential manufacturers of theatre television equipment in their campaign and will seek to enlist the support of the entire film industry in working out the potential problems faced by exhibitors in the postwar development of theatre television. The belief is that the development of television equipment for theatres is still in the experimental stage despite the available equipment developed by Scophony, Baird and other companies which was used in the pre-war period. RCA is one of the companies known to be interested in the development of postwar theatre television; General Electric is another. The engineers are understood to be determined to prevent a recurrence of the costly situation that hit exhibitors when sound equipment was first made available.

"Of vital importance to exhibitors installing television equipment in theatres in the postwar will be the contemplated work of the Society's television projection practice committee," according to Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, chairman of SMPE's theatre engineering committee and Don Hyndman, engineering vice-president. Plans of this committee, of which Lester Isaac, Loew's projection-sound head, is chairman, will go before the SMPE's conference at Hotel Pennsylvania here today.

Video Highlighted At SMPE Meeting Opening Here Today

Theatre television will be highlighted at today's opening session of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' 56th semi-annual technical conference at the Hotel Pennsylvania here. Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith of the Institute of Radio Engineers will be chairman of the session.

Among papers to be read on theatre television are those by Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice-president of RKO Television Corp., who will discuss economic aspects of theatre television; one by H. S. Borne, chief engineer of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., who will report on coaxial cable and other facilities for television networks; and another jointly by Dr. D. W. Epstein and Dr. I. G. Maloff, both of RCA, on television projection. Don Hyndman of Eastman Kodak, SMPE engineering vice-president, will report on the organization of committees on engineering.

300 Attending

More than 300 in the technical branches of the industry are expected to attend the conferences which will run through Wednesday. Film processing will be the subject of most of the papers programmed for tomorrow morning; the afternoon session will be devoted to discussions of developments in photography and sound recording, and the development and outlook of the 16mm branch of the industry.

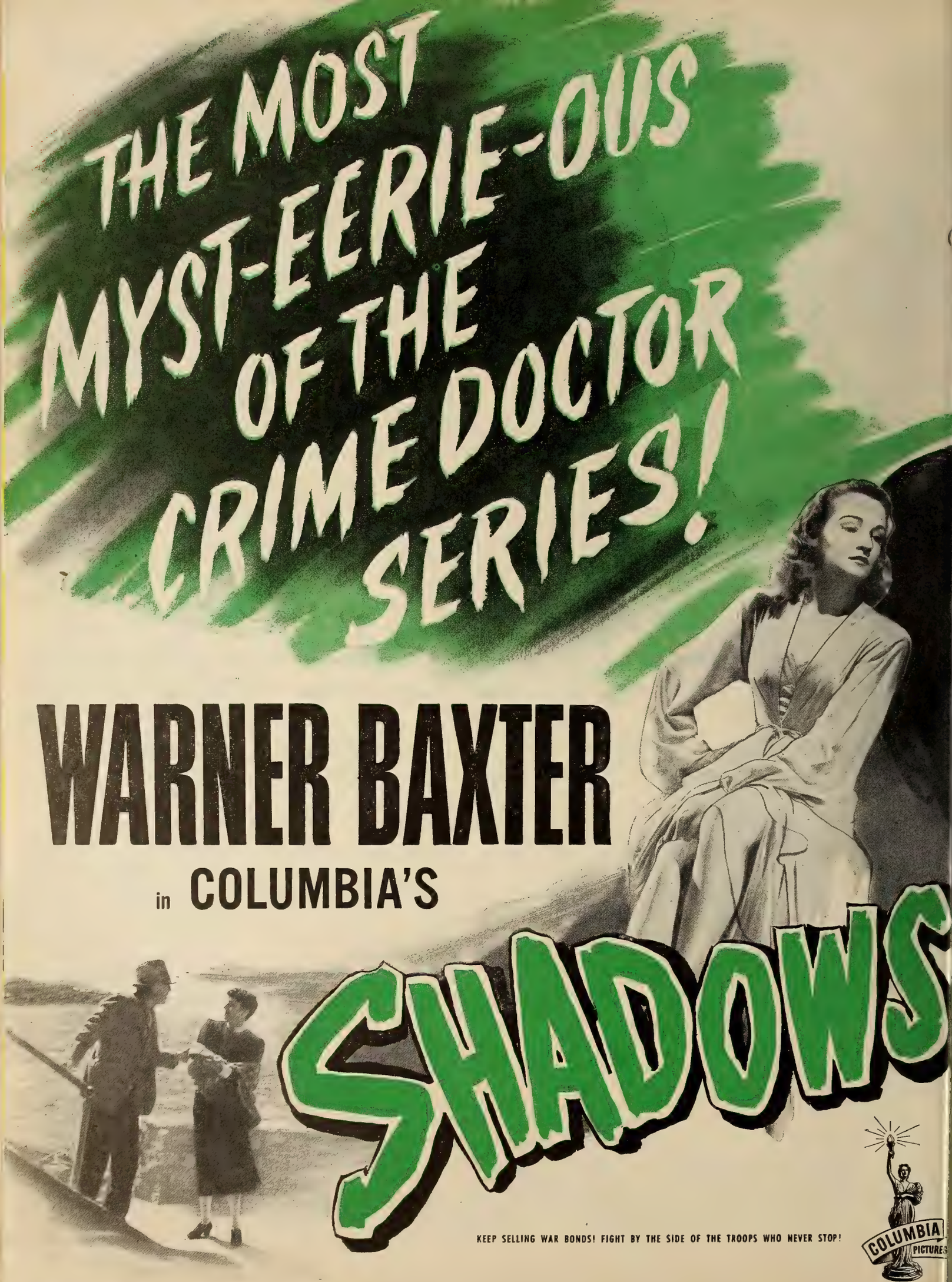
Officers elected to fill the places of officers whose terms will expire Dec. 31 next will be announced at a dinner-dance tomorrow night. Officers whose terms will expire include: Herbert Griffin, president; L. L. Ryder, executive vice-president; William C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president; A. C. Downes, editorial vice-president; M. R. Boyer, treasurer; and E. A. Williford, secretary. The annual awards will also be made at the dinner-dance.

The conference will close on Wednesday with a morning session featuring papers on developments in Army Air Force training films; the production of foreign version films, and special uses of high speed photography. An afternoon session will be devoted exclusively to papers by U. S. Navy officers on advances in production, filming and processing of training and combat films.

Rochester's Theatre Advertisements Run

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 15.—Rochester theatre advertisements are back in local papers following settlement of a dispute between the management of the Gannett Newspapers and printers of Local 15, International Typographical Union, which left the city without a paper last week for the first time in 26 years.

The Rochester *Times-Union* appeared without display advertising as did *The Democrat* and *Chronicle*, but advertising was resumed later in the *Times-Union*. Local theatre managers reported little box office effect, stepping up radio advertising and telephone service to meet demands for show information.


THE MOST MYST-EERIE-OUS OF THE CRIME DOCTOR SERIES!
WARNER BAXTER
in COLUMBIA'S
SHADOWS
KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!
COLUMBIA PICTURES

BEHIND THE LIGHT
...there are shadows!

BEHIND THE SHADOWS
...there are evil spirits!

BEHIND THE EVIL SPIRITS
...there's MURDER to thrill every mystery lover in your theatre!

IN THE NIGHT

RADIO'S FAMOUS CRIME DOCTOR
Thrilling on the air! Twice as thrilling on the screen!

A CRIME DOCTOR PICTURE

with

NINA FOCH · GEORGE ZUCCO · JEANNE BATES

Based on the popular CBS Radio Program "Crime Doctor"
by Max Marcin · Story and Screen Play by Eric Taylor

Produced by RUDOLPH C. FLOTHOW · Directed by EUGENE J. FORDE

Short Subject Review

"It's Murder"

(Columbia)

Bearing a vital message to the public, "It's Murder" is a powerful short which exhibitors will feel almost obliged to book. It is well handled from every angle and succeeds in the job it sets out to do. Following one soldier from his home town to a point of embarkation and finally to the fighting front, the film shows how idle bits of seemingly innocent gossip are dropped in conversations and picked up by professional spies. Those pieces of information are put together to form a pattern to show the enemy where or how or what the troops are moving and when. So the wife, mother, son and friend of that soldier are the ultimate cause of his death in action. The enemy knew where to strike from what he heard in telephone conversations, neighborly gossip sessions and other sources. The film will be released through the OWI and distributed through the War Activities Committee. Running time, 10 minutes. H. McN.

Sheridan and Brown Answer Army Critics

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Ann Sheridan and Joe E. Brown, who were among a number of film stars charged by the Army Newspaper CBI Roundup with quitting entertaining soldiers in the China-Burma-India area because it was too tough, struck back at their critics at the weekend.

Miss Sheridan said she was willing to "fight boy-fashion, no holds barred, anybody who thinks I dogged it in the overseas theatre." Brown retorted that he "did all any 53-year-old man could do" and played "every spot humanly possible."

Seek 'Hymn' for Drive

The Treasury Department is reported negotiating with the War Activities Committee for showing Arturo Toscanini's film recording of Verdi's "Hymn of the Nations" in theatres during the Sixth War Loan Drive.

Majestic Lists Stock

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 15.—The Majestic Radio and Television Corp., Chicago, registered Friday with the Securities and Exchange Commission 297,500 shares of one cent par value common stock.

Edgar Licho Dies

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 15.—Edgar Adolph Licho, 68, veteran character actor, died here late last week. A native of Russia, Licho appeared in M-G-M's "The White Cliffs of Dover" and "The Seventh Cross," and many others. Surviving are his widow, Martha, and a son, Mario.

To Honor Ted Schlanger

PHILADELHIA, Oct. 15. — Ted Schlanger, zone manager for Warner Theatres here, will be honored in February with a testimonial dinner to be given him by the local industry on the occasion of his 10th anniversary with the company.

Reviews

"Alaska"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, October 15

TO the standard ingredients of the successful Western, Producer Lindsley Parsons and his associate, Vernon Keays, have added songs, scenery and sophisticated story angles. The result is a spectacular and swift-moving picture which should delight those who revel in shootings, fist fights, and burning buildings.

The screenplay is by George Wallace Sayre, Harrison Orkow and Malcolm Stuart Boylan, with additional dialogue by William Shakespeare, as rendered by John Carradine. The whole is based on a novel by Jack London and a rip-roaring tale about a gang of claim jumpers in the days of the Alaska gold rush. The hero, Kent Taylor, is accused of murder by the villains, and only some fast work by the heroine, Margaret Lindsay, and a self-sacrificial gesture by her no-good husband, save Taylor successively from being shot, lynched, and burned alive.

George Archainbaud directed with his usual emphasis on action, and the cast appeared to be enjoying itself tremendously. Carradine contributes an acute portrait of an alcoholic and Miss Lindsay sings in a sweet voice and with serenity.

Running time, 76 min. Release date, Nov. 18. "G."* THALIA BELL

"Code of the Prairie"

(Republic)

THE power of the press is pitted against pistols in this drama of the Oklahoma Panhandle. Tom Chatterton, a newspaper editor out to reform Canyon City, is killed off early in the story by elements interested in preserving the status quo. Subsequently, Smiley Burnette and Sunset Carson, determined to avenge the newspaperman's death, set and spring a neat trap for the villians.

The original story, a more-than-usually absorbing one, is by Albert Desmond, who also collaborated with Anthony Coldeway on the screenplay. Spencer Bennet directed with a nice sense of timing and careful attention to detail was expended by associate producer Lou Gray and executive producer William J. O'Sullivan. Peggy Stewart handles the feminine interest pleasantly, and Tom Chatterton deserves special mention. Others in the cast include Roy Barcroft, Weldon Heyburn, Bud Geary, Tom London and Jack Kirk.

Running time, 56 minutes. "G."* Release date, Oct. 9. T.B.

"G" denotes general classification.

European Managers Will Resume Posts

(Continued from page 1)

to resume his post upon his release from the Government agency; Paramount's Fred Lange will return as European manager as soon as transportation can be arranged. He is now attached to the home office.

Major Ben Miggins, recently discharged from the U. S. Army, will return to Europe as Continental manager for 20th Century-Fox. Vladimir Lissim, former assistant European manager for RKO, and now European sales division manager, will return to Paris as soon as feasible. Marcel Genteel, the company's French manager, has been located through RKO Pathe News, and is scheduled to resume his former duties.

Joseph Hummel, recently named by Warners in charge of Continental Europe, Scandinavia, Africa, Palestine and Syria, will go to Paris as soon as he can procure a visa. Lacy Kastner, former Columbia European manager, now with the Psychological Warfare Division, is scheduled to resume his post as soon as he terminates with the PWD. Columbia has temporarily designated M. Alderink as its Paris manager. The post of Continental manager is at present unoccupied at Universal. The territory was formerly divided between Ernest Koenig, who was in charge of France and adjacent territory, and Louis Foldes, who handled Eastern Europe for the company.

Theatres Blanketed By MGM Promotion

CINCINNATI, Oct. 15.—"Every theatre in the country will be blanketed by M-G-M's promotional service under a plan being immediately put into effect in order to secure closer cooperation between film salesmen, exploiteers and theatres," William R. Ferguson, M-G-M director of exploitation, stated here yesterday at the end of two days of discussion by M-G-M field representatives.

The plan will embrace M-G-M customers and non-customers. Ferguson also told the gathering that, "We must look ahead and direct more attention to the youth of today who represent the potential customer of tomorrow. Also, we should not overlook the woman's angle in developing campaigns."

Others attending the session were: Bill Coleman, Dallas supervisor; E. C. Carrier and Volney Phifer, home office; William Bishop, Chicago; J. E. Watson, Cincinnati; Norman Linz, Indianapolis; Charles Baron, Pittsburg; Irving Waterstreet, St. Louis; Charles Dietz, Detroit; Jack Gilmore, Buffalo; and Al Burks, Charlotte.

Returning to New York with Ferguson were Carrier, Burks and Phifer.

Charles Deardourf, Cleveland exploiteer, was given a $100 bond in recognition by his associates of 24 years with M-G-M. Ferguson also announced 20 plaque winners for the best campaigns during the recent 20-year anniversary week.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, October 15

DAVID BROOKS, star of the Broadway hit play, "Bloomer Girl," has been signed by Paramount to a term contract and will report when the play ends its run. . . . Charles Dingle will have a feature role in Abbott and Costello's next comedy for Universal, "Here Come the Co-eds." . . . Sol Lesser has purchased Virginia Perdue's "Alarum and Excursion" and will produce it for RKO release. . . . Milton Berle is set for an important part in "The Dolly Sisters" at 20th Century-Fox. . . . Edmund Lowe will have a leading role in "John Dillinger," gangster drama which the King Brothers are producing for Monogram.

•

Marshall Thompson, currently working in M-G-M's "The Valley of Decision," has been given a long-term contract by that studio. . . . James A. Fitzpatrick has left for Mexico to make preliminary arrangements for Republic's bi-lingual production, "Song of Mexico," in which Edgar Barrier and Tony Garcia will have important roles. . . . 20th Century-Fox has purchased an original by Frances Marion titled "Molly, Bless Her," based upon the life of Marie Dressler. Robert Bassler will produce the film; Gracie Fields and Monty Woolley will have the leading roles.

•

Cora Sue Collins has been signed to play the lead in Columbia's "Our Wandering Daughters." . . . Universal has assigned "Romance, Inc." to Bernard Burton to produce. . . . Samuel Bronston has signed Dudley Nichols to do the screenplay for "Ten Little Indians." . . . James Craig will have the romantic lead opposite Frances Gifford in M-G-M's "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," which will star Margaret O'Brien and Edward G. Robinson. Roy Rowland will direct for producer Robert Sisk. . . . Columbia has exercised its option on Adele Jergens and assigned her a role in "A Thousand and One Nights." . . . Xavier Cugat who, with his orchestra, has been playing at the Waldorf for 12 years, has been set to appear in M-G-M's "Weekend at the Waldorf."

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Delmar Daves, who made his directorial debut less than a year ago on "Destination Tokyo," has been assigned to direct "This Love of Ours," the story of Marine Sergeant Al Schmid.

•

Initial assignments have been made on "Hotel Berlin," which will be the first picture on Lou Edelman's production schedule at Warners. Peter Godfrey will direct, and Raymond Massey and Helmut Dantine will have important roles. . . . Charles R. Rogers has signed Frank Cavett to write the original story and screenplay for "My Wild Irish Rose," color musical based on the life of Chauncey Alcott and featuring that composer's songs. . . . Sonny Tufts, winner of the MOTION PICTURE HERALD-FAME *"Stars of Tomorrow" poll, will be co-starred with Betty Hutton in Paramount's "Too Good to Be True."*

'Barbary Coast' and Show Take $30,000

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 15.—"Barbary Coast Gent" took the lead in Pittsburgh this week with an estimated $30,000. Stage show, starring Lena Horne, helped the Stanley to set the week's record.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 9-13:

"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,500).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $21,700).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week, on a moveover from the Warner. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).
"The Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
"U-Boat Prisoner" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,400).
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, on a moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,350.)

Indianapolis Is Off, Except 'Prayer'

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 15.—Christmas shopping for service men overseas is the probable reason for box office receipts skidding to a low here this week, with nearly all houses falling below average. The Indiana, with "Wing and a Prayer" and "Take It Or Leave it," was high.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 10-12:

"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,600).
"Friendly Neighbors" (Rep.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Stage show. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"The Whistler (Col.)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
"Twilight On the Prairie" (Univ.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,900).

'Wilson's' $30,000 Vs. $12,000 Par

BUFFALO, Oct. 15.—"Wilson" was headed for $30,000 at the Twentieth Century to lead here.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 14:

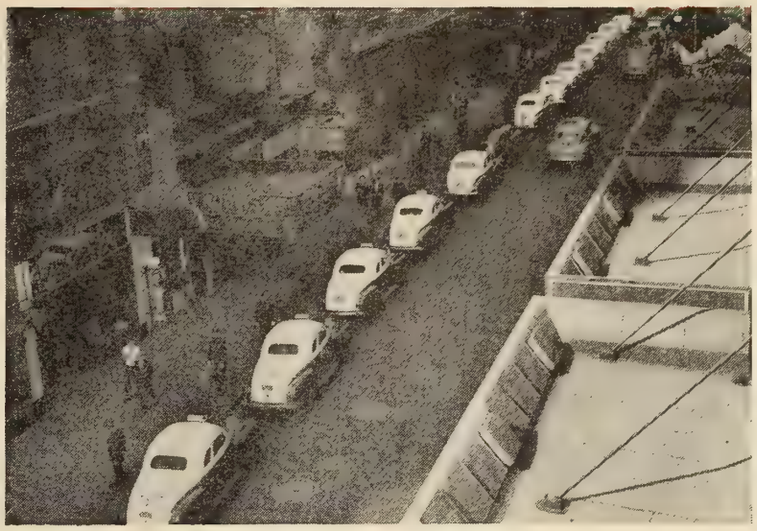
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
"Two-Man Submarine" (Col.)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $17,400).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,800. (Average: $16,200).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,700).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (76-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average at 40c-60c: $12,200).
"Carolina Blues" (Col.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400).

Signs Buchanan Agency

International Pictures has appointed Buchanan & Co. to handle its advertising, this including newspapers, magazines, radio and outdoor advertising.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



ALL-TIME RECORD THRONGS BRING 200 POLICE, 20 SQUAD CARS TO N. Y. PARAMOUNT AS QUARTER-MILE LINE, FOUR ABREAST, STORMS PREMIERE RUN OF "OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY" WITH SINATRA ON STAGE.

ENTHUSIASM OF CROWD OF 20,000 IS MATCHED BY CRITICS, WHO HAIL PICTURE AS "CAPTIVATING," "DELIRIOUS," "DELIGHTFUL," "LOVABLE," "CHARMING," "A HONEY."

'Janie' on a Denver Dual Gets $18,750

DENVER, Oct. 15.—Downtown theatres here had a lull this week with first runs and moveovers doing only average or a little better than average business. Leading was the Denver with "Janie," on a dual, bringing $18,750.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 9-12:

"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Sherlock Holmes and the Pearl of Death (Univ.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,600).
"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
"The Maltese Falcon" (WB)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $4,875. (Average: $3,900).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Janie" (WB)
"Crime by Night" (WB)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $18,750. (Average: $15,000).
"Janie" (WB)
"Crime by Night" (WB)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,500).
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
"Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,300).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000).

'SYWA' Nets $23,000 In Kansas City Run

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 15.—"Since You Went Away" in its third week at the Midland continued big with $23,000. "Janie" at the Newman grossed a fine $13,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 10-13:

"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 3rd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Janie" (WB)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gay 90's Stage Revue. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,400).
"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,900. (Average: $1,600).

'Island' Captures $11,100 in Omaha

OMAHA, Oct. 15.—"Rainbow Island" was good for $11,100 at the Paramount Theatre here, while the Brandeis, with "Bride by Mistake" and "The Falcon in Mexico," surprised with $8,100. Indian Summer weather prevailed.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 11-12:

"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $6,500).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,400).
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $9,800).
"Rainbow Island"
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,100. (Average: $11,700).

Hundreds Seen Benefiting by New WLB Rule

(*Continued from page* 1)

from a negative approach, the regional boards are understood to have taken the position that they can approve such wage-progression plans at least up to the limitations set forth in the directive.

Ordinarily, the rate ranges in classifications are sufficiently broad to permit a sizeable wage progression increase when agreed upon between the companies and the unions entering into the petition for the increase.

In many cases, employes receive wages below minimums of wage ranges established for their classifications originally set up.

MPOE First

One of the first industry unions expected to benefit by the new WLB ruling is Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169. The MPOE had worked out a system of job classifications with Universal executives covering the company's home office "white collar" workers. An eight per cent wage increase was provided for but the regional board in New York approved only a four per cent increase. It now appears that approval of the original eight per cent is in order and might be forthcoming. It is also indicated that two proposed eight per cent wage increases, the first to be paid starting Aug. 10, 1945, and the second on Aug. 10, 1946, recently negotiated by the MPOE for Warner Bros.' home office "white-collarites," would also meet with the board's approval.

SOPEG Affected

Another office worker group seen probably affected is Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, representing 3,000. SOPEG is currently negotiating a system of job classifications with automatic progression increases for "white-collar" workers of Paramount, RKO, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia, United Artists and others in New York.

The new policy is also seen as aiding those film companies desiring to join with unions in establishing a definite policy of wage increases to prevent deflection of workers to other jobs.

SPG to Receive Back Pay Week of Oct. 28

Film companies and Screen Publicists Guild of New York have settled all questions in connection with putting the SPG arbitration award for some 280 home office publicists into effect. It is now planned to pay the retroactive wage increases around Oct. 28, contingent upon the necessary approval from the Treasury Department on increases for those earning $5,000 a year or more. This approval is expected. The War Labor Board has already approved the award for publicists earning less than $5,000 a year.

The increases are retroactive to May, 1943, with the overall amount which the companies will pay estimated to be in excess of $130,000.

U. S. Films Face Greater Competition in Africa

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—American films are easily the most popular shown in Africa but in some sections of the Dark Continent they may face increased competition after the war, it was disclosed tonight by Nathan D. Golden, chief of the motion picture unit of the Department of Commerce, in a report on African film markets.

Third of a series covering world film markets other than enemy countries, the report, based on surveys by consular officials of the State Department, deals with 15 African markets having a total of 991 theatres with 559,382 seats.

Since the various African areas, with the exception of Liberia and the Union of South Africa, are colonies owned by Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Belgium and Italy, they have been subject since the outbreak of the war to various forms of film control, ranging from strict supervision by the British in Eritrea, formerly Italian, to the showing of Nazi pictures without hindrance in Spanish Morocco.

Object to Old Films

Major criticism of pictures available, more or less general throughout Africa, is age, war conditions having prevented the distribution of late productions, and there is also indicated a desire on the part of various nationalities to have pictures dubbed in their own languages.

The survey of Africa was attended by difficulties because of the fact that several areas, Algeria and Eritrea among them, are occupied by the Allied armies and conditions are abnormal. In Algeria, for instance, imports of films are under the control of the Army's Psychological Warfare Branch and a number of theatres have been requisitioned temporarily by the military.

The report showed that Egypt is the only country in which native production offers any competition to imported pictures, although the Union of South Africa has been considering the establishment of a producing industry. In Egypt, the competition from domestically produced films has increased very rapidly and they are now being shown in first-run houses in Cairo and Alexandria and have taken over all the second-run houses in the big cities and practically all of the provincial theatres, it was said.

The exhibition market in Africa is limited, the report showed, since little effort is made to develop native audiences and, as a matter of fact, in the Belgian Congo the 14,000,000 natives are not permitted to attend theatres. Because of war conditions and sparse populations which make for the infrequent showing of pictures in cafes and other places which constitute the only theatre facilities, the gathering of statistics on African exhibition was difficult. The report found, however, that nearly half of all the theatres were located in the Union of South Africa, where 450 houses reported an annual attendance of 30,000,000 persons.

196 Algerian Theatres

Algeria was reported to have 196 theatres with a capacity of 114,187 and an annual attendance of 19,376,000; Angola, 10 theatres seating 4,870 persons and an annual attendance of 220,000; Belgian Congo, six theatres, 1,955 seats and an annual attendance of 125,000; Egypt, 121 theatres with 109,840 seats; Eritrea, 23 theatres; French Equatorial Africa, two theatres; French Morocco, 70 theatres, 39,875 seats and a yearly attendance of 165,000; Gold Coast, 13 theatres; Kenya, 17 theatres, 10,500 seats, and an annual attendance of 1,750,000; Libera, one theatre with 300 seats and 37,000 admissions a year; Madagascar, 19 theatres, 8,550 seats, annual attendance, 1,700,000; Mozambique, 4 theatres, 3,200 seats; Nigeria, 13 theatres, 8,200 seats, 625,000 admissions, and Spanish North Africa, 28 theatres, 18,645 seats, and 3,000,000 admissions.

UA-Rank Releases Hit by Raw Stock

A shortage of Technicolor raw stock has caused United Artists to alter its releasing plans for J. Arthur Rank's pictures in this country.

The black-and-white "Mr. Emmanuel" will be the first release. Noel Coward's "This Happy Breed," in color, is understood to have been the first choice of Barrington C. Gain and Dr. Alexander Galperson, Rank's distribution representatives here, while United Artists is said to have favored "Colonel Blimp," also in color.

The color raw stock situation might delay UA's first release of a Rank color film for months.

Columbia Dividend

Columbia's board has declared a quarterly dividend of 68¾ cents per share on the $2.75 convertible preferred stock of the company, payable Nov. 15 to stockholders of record on Nov. 1.

Party for Montez

Universal will be host to Maria Montez at a cocktail party at 21 Club this afternoon.

Studio Strike Ends; Hearing in 3 Weeks

(*Continued from page* 1)

Decorators Union, D. T. Wayne of the Machinists Union and Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions as a means of settling the jurisdictional dispute, are not expected to begin for two or three weeks following the appointment of a trial panel, which is expected within one week. The schedule of hearings will depend upon the mutual convenience of the panel members.

The panel will be composed of one representative each from labor, industry and the public, but no member may be identified with the film industry in any manner. It will be named by Frank Mauritsen, director of disputes of the Los Angeles WLB from a standing list available for this purpose. After all testimony and allegations are heard, the panel will report its findings to the local regional board, which will make the final decision and forward it to the San Francisco NWLB, which will make the ruling available.

Set Itinerary of First 7 Sixth War Loan Meetings

(*Continued from page* 1)

Jr., national publicity director; co-chairmen Hugh Bruen and Leo Wolcott, Capt. Ray Wild, U. S. Treasury Department.

San Francisco, St. Francis Hotel, Oct. 24, state chairmen Rotus Harvey and N. Dow Thompson; Henry Herbel, district chairman from Los Angeles; Brandt, Crockett, Fabian, Depinet, Hertz, Capt. Wild, Bruen and Wolcott.

Following the San Francisco meeting members of the national committee will divide into two groups, each attending various meetings in different key cities, as follows:

Portland Ore., Oct. 25, Benson Hotel, state chairmen O. J. Miller and Walter Casey; Crockett, Bruen, Harvey, Lt. Largley of the Treasury Department; Fay Reeder, publicity chairman, and Henry Herbel of the distribution division.

Salt Lake City, Oct. 26, Utah Hotel, state chairmen Hall Baetz, Tom Knight and Walter Casey; Tom Bailey of Denver, Brandt, Fabian, Depinet, Hertz, Capt. Wild, Wolcott and John Rugar.

Other Dates

Seattle, Oct. 26, Olympic Hotel, state chairmen Frank Newman, Sr., J. A. English and Tom Knight; Crockett, Bruen, Harvey, Herbel, Lt. Largley and Reeder.

Omaha, Oct. 27, Fontanelle Hotel, state chairmen Sam Epstein, William Miskell, A. H. Blank, Mike Cooper, Ed Krauss, Fred Larkin and E. R. Rubin; district and branch managers and salesmen from Omaha, Des Moines and Minneapolis, S. W. Fitch of Sioux Falls; Ted Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division; Brandt, Fabian, Depinet, Hertz, Capt. Wild, Wolcott, Rugar and Al Steffes.

Kansas City, Oct. 28, Muehlebach Hotel, state chairmen Elmer Rhoden and Howard Jameyson, district and branch managers and salesmen from Kansas City and St. Louis; J. B. Underwood, Dallas; C. A. Gibbs, Oklahoma City; Gamble, Brandt, Fabian, Depinet, Hertz, Capt. Wild, Jack Kirsch, Rugar and Fred Wehrenberg.

Meetings will also be held in Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Buffalo, Louisville, Pittsburgh, Hartford, Boston, Charlotte, Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York.

Kingsberg Announces More Area Chairmen

Malcolm Kingsberg, New York area chairman for the Sixth War loan drive, announces borough and county chairmen as follows: Charles B. McDonald, George Ritch, Manhattan; Julius Joelson and Eugene Meyers, Bronx; Erwin Gold and Paul Binstock, Brooklyn; H. Russell Emde and James Grady, Westchester; Fred Brunelle, Jack Harris, Queens; Irving Liner, Jack Harris, Emanuel Friedman, Nassau, and Walter F. Higgins, Suffolk.

The chairmen will appoint captains to assist in organizing their territories.

Silleg Joins Condon

Gail Silleg Goldstein, who resigned last week from Warner Bros., has joined the Richard Condon public relations office here to do publicity work.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 74 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Distributors Agree on Films For 6th Drive

Hertz Names 49 State Aides on Publicity

Ned E. Depinet, chairman of the distributors' division of the industry's campaign for the Sixth War Loan drive, yesterday announced the agreement of all distributors on films for exhibitor bond premieres during the campaign, opening Nov. 20 and running through Dec. 16.

At the same time, John Hertz, Jr., national industry publicity director for the drive, announced that 49 field publicists had consented to serve, to coordinate local war bond advertising, publicity and exploitation campaigns of exhibitors.

Agreement of the distributors in furnishing pictures for bond premieres follows:

Between Nov. 20 and Dec. 16, the distributors will furnish for one per-

(*Continued on page* 11)

$130,000 for 'Parkington'

"Mrs. Parkington," garnering $80,000 on its first four days at the Radio City Music Hall, is headed for a $130,000 week, ending Wednesday, to lead Broadway's current box-office parade and bid for a place among all-time high grossers at the house, according to the management.

Chief public, press and police attention in the Times Square district was

(*Continued on page* 11)

Balaban Pledges 20 Millions to 6th

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, yesterday pledged a $20,000,000 bond purchase for his company in the Sixth War Loan campaign, it was reported here by Neil Agnew, chairman of Eastern division bond sales for the War Activities Committee. This is the first film company commitment for the sixth drive.

Paramount pledged $15,000,000 in the Fifth War Loan drive.

Films Will Be in Strongest Position In Postwar: Cowdin

The film business will emerge from the war with greater stature as an industry than ever before, in the strongest financial condition in its history, and with an increased number of "film fans" in both this country and abroad, J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal Pictures, Inc., declared in a letter to stockholders released here yesterday discussing postwar prospects of the industry.

J. Cheever Cowdin

Pointing out that the industry has an outstanding record of service to our Armed Forces, Cowdin declared

(*Continued on page* 10)

Altec Shows 2-Way Theatre Speaker

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—A 'Duplex' speaker, for which a frequency range of from 38 to 15,000 cycles is claimed, was demonstrated today for delegates attending Altec's annual meeting here. It was part of a display of electronic equipment developed in wartime for the war but not available until the

(*Continued on page* 7)

Court Fails to Rule on SIMPP Crescent Move

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The U. S. Supreme Court here today failed to act on the motion of Morris L. Ernst, attorney for the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, Hollywood, for leave to intervene in the Crescent Amusement Co. case.

The motion was filed late last week after Ernst had attempted unsuccessfully to secure the consent of both sides to the submission of a brief, a circumstance which, in the great majority of cases, leads to rejection of such motions by the Court. In his petition for leave to allow the SIMPP to intervene, Ernst told the Court that the Government, at the trial of the case, placed emphasis upon

(*Continued on page* 7)

WPB Urges Making Projector Parts

Manufacturers who have the material, equipment and manpower to make urgently needed projection equipment parts may now secure authorization to make such parts under the War Production Board's 'spot authorization' order PR-25, Allen G. Smith, head of the theatre equipment section

(*Continued on page* 10)

Box Offices Will Decide Video Future

Austrian Tells SMPE Exhibitor Has Answer

"Television is too big, too all-encompassing, too international in scope to be controlled by group interests and must not be thought of as the exclusive instrument of the broadcasting industry, or, as a matter of record, of any other industry," Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice-president of RKO Television Corp., told 250 members of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at yesterday afternoon's session of their three-day 56th semi-annual technical conference at the Hotel Pennsylvania here.

"Film exhibitors," Austrian said, "are not going to let

(*Continued on page* 10)

Schine Sale Is Confirmed

BUFFALO, Oct. 16.—Following confirmation of sale of four of its theatres in Virginia and Kentucky to A. Charles Hayman of Niagara Falls, Schine Chain Theatres today has only five more houses to sell in order to have completely complied with a court order of May, 1942, requiring the circuit to divest itself of 15 properties it acquired since filing of the Government's anti-trust charges in 1939.

Hayman has purchased the State

(*Continued on page* 11)

Shanklin Warns of New US Tax Threat

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Oct. 16.—The 10th annual convention of the West Virginia Managers Association will open here tomorrow at the Daniel Boone Hotel, with Ed Kuykendall, president of the MPTOA, addressing

(*Continued on page* 11)

Films Getting More Space In Nation's Newspapers

Curtailment of less than 10 per cent in the amount of newspaper space devoted to films and film theatres, compared with 18 months ago is observed in newspapers of 125 large cities in a survey by MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents, and this despite the continuing overall shortage of available newsprint.

This is considered more unusual in view of the fact that in many cases advertising space available to films had been cut by 25 per cent or more. The consensus in the report attributes this milder overall curtailment to the recognition of the high news value placed on film news in general and upon Hollywood personalities in particular. The chief curtailment has been in Saturday and Sunday editions of the papers, which show an average reduction of about 25 per cent in film space.

In recent months, theatres and film companies have been allowed to place advertisements in general news sections when they were not able to obtain large enough space accommodation in amusement pages. Although film companies' and theatres' advertising space is allocated in newspapers in many cities, extended film holdovers have enabled them to accumulate a space backlog to provide a new film opening with a good spread in advertising columns.

Widespread participation of Hollywood personalities in USO domestic and overseas entertainment tours for members of the Armed Forces has also enabled the industry to obtain more space in news sections.

Reviewed Today

Review of "And Now Tomorrow," Paramount, will be found on page 7; also "The Man in Halfmoon Street," Paramount, and "Law of the Valley," Monogram, on page 14.

Petersen To Speak At Mayer Dinner

Howard C. Petersen, executive assistant to Under Secretary of War Patterson, will be a guest speaker at the farewell dinner to be given to Arthur Mayer by the industry tomorrow at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

Petersen will represent the Secretary of War whom Mayer has been serving as civilian film consultant for the past several months until his appointment as aide to Stanton Griffis as deputy commissioner for the Red Cross in the Pacific Islands area.

Goetz Pulls 'Window' After Censors' Cut

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—World premiere of "Woman in the Window" at the RKO Palace, Cincinnati, Thursday, has been cancelled because the William Goetz-Leo Spitz International Pictures, producers of the film, refuse to make eliminations ordered by the Ohio censor board at Columbus.

Goetz said he sees the picture ruined on the basis of the censor board's demands, adding International intends to fight the issue, through RKO, distributor of the film.

Hickey, Rosenwald, Goldstein Arrive

Three M-G-M field executives arrived here yesterday to spend a week at the home office visiting departmental heads. They are: George A. Hickey, Western district manager, in Los Angeles; Benn Rosenwald, Charlotte manager; Maurice Goldstein, New Haven manager.

Next Monday, Frank Downey, Detroit manager, and Harry Shumow, Milwaukee manager, will arrive for similar visits.

Willkie Burial Service In Rushville Today

Funeral services for Wendell L. Willkie will be held at the Wyatt Memorial Home, Rushville, Indiana, today, following the return of his son, Lt. (j.g.) Philip Willkie to the United States after overseas duty. Willkie, in addition to his political career, was also chairman of the board of 20th Century-Fox.

Preliminary services were held a week ago at the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York. Interment will be in Rushville Cemetery.

Winchell as Birdwell

Leon Fromkess, president of PRC, began, at the weekend, overtures to secure Walter Winchell to enact the starring role in "I Ring Doorbells," film biography of Russell Birdwell, at a proffered salary of $25,000 per week, according to the Birdwell office here.

U. S. Seizes 'Tabu'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The Alien Property Custodian reports the seizure of the German film, "Tabu," held by Paramount as trustee for the heirs-at-law of F. W. Murnau, deceased.

Personal Mention

JOHN BALABAN and DAVE WALLERSTEIN of B. and K. Theatres, Chicago, are visiting in New York.

•

SOL A. SCHWARTZ, general manager of RKO out-of-town theatres, and his assistant, WILLIAM HOWARD, left yesterday for a Midwest tour and will return at the weekend.

•

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, has returned from St. Louis, where he was a patient at Barnes Hospital for several weeks. He will rest at his home before returning to work.

•

MARIETTA V. BARRETT of the staff of Quigley Publications has resigned to join Radio-Keith-Orpheum in the office of J. Miller Walker, secretary of the corporation.

•

LOUIS SHANFIELD, head of the 20th Century-Fox art department, and W. J. MCHALE of the advertisng department, returned from the Coast yesterday.

•

J. H. FELDHANS, operator of the Iowa Theatre, Omaha, has been appointed Justice of the Peace in that city.

•

H. A. ROSS, president of Ross Federal Service, has left New York for company meetings in Chicago, Memphis and Los Angeles.

•

LT. COL. HAL ROACH of the Army Air Corps, who recently returned from overseas, is now in New York with MRS. ROACH.

•

NORMAN ELSON, general manager of Trans-Lux Theatres here, will return to New York tomorrow from Washington.

•

GUS KING and his partner, OSCAR HOWELL, of Capitol City Supply Co., have returned to Atlanta from Chicago.

•

BEATRICE RAPPAPORT, secretary to PHIL REISMAN, RKO vice-president in charge of foreign sales, is on a two-week vacation.

•

A. MONTAGUE, Columbia general sales manager, will leave Hollywood on the *Superchief* for New York today.

•

MITCHELL RAWSON of the M-G-M home office publicity department returned from the Coast yesterday.

•

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, left Hollywood yesterday for New York.

•

HAROLD BERNSTEIN, formerly of the Plaza, Cincinnati, has moved to California.

•

RUSSELL BIRDWELL arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

ALFRED HITCHCOCK arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

•

LEON GORDON, M-G-M writer, will leave for the Coast Oct. 26.

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, president of Loews, Inc., arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

CAPT. WALTER LLOYD, former manager of the M. and P. Allyn Theatre, Hartford, Conn., has returned after after 18 months with the Army in North Africa and has left with MRS. LLOYD to spend 10 days at an Army rest camp in Tampa, Fla., before reassignment.

•

LANE PATTON and A. J. RADEMACHER, Altec Service New York branch managers, arrived in Hollywood yesterday. WARREN CONNER, district manager, and M. G. THOMAS, Cincinnati branch manager, are en route to the Coast.

•

LIEUT. (j. g.) JULIUS GORDON, USN, president of the Jefferson Amusement Co., Beaumont, Tex., is here on leave from Boston, accompanied by VICTOR PELISEK of the same company.

•

JAMES A. RUDULPH, copywriter of the Newell-Emmett agency, son of GERRY RUDULPH, former advertising manager of Fox Films and RCA Photophone, was married Sept. 10 to FLORENCE BARRETT.

•

PETER SHAYNE, former president of the Chicago projectionists union, has recovered from illness and is now employed at the Downtown Theatre, Chicago.

•

IRENE DUNNE, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast. She will go to Canada this week for a War Bond Rally and then return to California.

•

FRED MCLENDON of the McLendon circuit, Union Springs, Ala., has returned from Washington, D. C., accompanied by U. S. SENATOR GEORGE ANDREWS.

•

JACK KIRBY, Paramount Atlanta district manager, and BILL FINNEY, division manager of Loew's Theatres there, are on the sick list.

•

HENRY WILLSON, executive assistant to DANIEL O'SHEA, president of Vanguard Films, Inc., arrived in New York yesterday.

•

JOEL LEVY, out of town Loews's booker, returned to New York yesterday after a 10-day trip upstate and to Canada.

•

CHARLES E. KESSNICH, M-G-M district manager, returned to Atlanta yesterday after a week in ew York.

•

DARRYL F. ZANUCK will attend the opening of "Wilson" at the Apollo, Chicago, Friday.

•

R. J. INGRAM, Columbia Southern district manager, has left Atlanta on a tour of his territory.

•

HAROLD HOPPER, M-G-M studio executive, arrived in New York from the Coast yesterday.

Nevin and Hochstein Hearings Nov. 20

Isadore Nevin, former bookkeeper for George E. Browne, ex-president of the IATSE, and Harry Hochstein, former morals inspector in Chicago, both indicted by a Federal Grand Jury for perjury in the Bioff-Browne union case, had their hearings in the U. S. District Court here postponed yesterday until Nov. 20 by Judge Samuel Mandelbaum.

NEW YORK THEATRES

The Season's Surprise Hit!
"MY PAL, WOLF"
with
SHARYN MOFFETT
Jill Esmond Una O'Connor
George Cleveland
Charles Arnt
Claire Carleton
An RKO Radio Picture
BRANT'S REPUBLIC
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RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

PARAMOUNT'S
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay"
starring
Gail RUSSELL - Diana LYNN
with Charlie Ruggles - Dorothy Gish
IN PERSON—FRANK SINATRA
plus Eileen Barton
RAYMOND PAIGE and his orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"MUSIC IN MANHATTAN"
ANNE SHIRLEY DENNIS DAY
PHILIP TERRY

STATE
ON SCREEN
PEARL BUCK'S
'DRAGON SEED'
Katharine HEPBURN
Turhan Bey
IN PERSON
HENRY ARMETTA
HARRIET HOCTOR

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SUSPENSE
The Woman in the Window

THE SCREEN'S SUPRE

International

Edward G.

Robinson

IN

The Wo in Win

Directed

The super-mystery-drama of a man of substance and a lily of the field tied by terror to a murder secret too hot for their guilty hearts!

Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

ADVENTURE IN SUSPENSE!

res Inc. presents

Joan

Bennett

man

the

dow

RITZ LANG

ith Raymond Massey

and Edmond Breon • Dan Duryea

A NUNNALLY JOHNSON

PRODUCTION

AGAIN

GOOD ENTERTAINMENT IS "INTERNATIONAL"

1 GARY COOPER • TERESA WRIGHT
Casanova Brown

2 EDWARD G. ROBINSON
AND
JOAN BENNETT
in
The Woman in the Window
with RAYMOND MASSEY
and Edmond Breon • Dan Duryea
Directed by FRITZ LANG
A NUNNALLY JOHNSON Production
Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

Coast Filming Dropped 11 as Strike Result

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—That walkout of set decorators, painters and machinists slowed down production at five studios during the week. The total number of pictures in work dropped from 52 to 41; 18 features were completed, and seven others were started on lots which the walkout had not affected. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Eadie Was a Lady," "Together Again."

Started: "Our Wandering Daughters," with Cora Sue Collins, Eric Sinclair, Ralph Hoops, John Calvert.

Shooting: "Lawless Empire," "Let's Go Steady," "Counter-attack."

M-G-M

Finished: "Thrill of a Romance," "The Clock."

Shooting: "Hold High the Torch," "Women's Army," "Son of Lassie," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Finished: "G. I. Honeymoon."

Started: "Texas Terror" (tentative title) with Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton, Jennifer Holt; "John Dillinger," with Lawrence Tierney, Ann Jeffreys, Edmund Lowe.

Paramount

Finished: "High Man."

Shooting: "Duffy's Tavern," "Salty O'Rourke," "The Golden Years" (formerly "Miss Susie Slagle's").

PRC

Finished: "His Brother's Ghost."

Shooting: "You Can't Stop Romance," "Strange Illusion."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Come Share My Love," "China Sky," "Experiment Perilous," "Zombies on Broadway," "It's a Pleasure" (International).

Started: "The Enchanted Cottage," with Dorothy McGuire, Robert Young, Mildred Natwick; "West of the Pecos," with Robert Mitchum, Barbara Hale, Rita Corday, Richard Martin.

Shooting: "Isle of the Dead" (temporarily suspended); "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn); "Tarzan and the Amazons" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "Topeka Terror," "Hitchhike to Happiness," "The Great Flamarion" (William Wilder).

Started: "A Daring Holiday," with Edward Everett Horton, Gladys George, Ruth Terry, Robert Livingston; "A Song for Miss Julie" (Rowland) with Shirley Ross, Barton Hepburn, Jane Farrar, and Cheryl Walker.

Shooting: "The Vampire's Ghost," "Chicago Kid."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Nob Hill."

Shooting: Bon Voyage," "Czarina," "Where Do We Go From Here?" "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," "Hangover Square."

United Artists

Shooting: "Hold Autumn in Your Hand" (PAC); "Delightfully Dangerous" (Rogers); "It's in the Bag" (Skirball).

Universal

Finished: "Fairy Tale Murder."

Shooting: "The Suspect," "Salome—Where She Danced," "Frisco Sal."

Warners

Shooting: "The Big Sleep," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Of Human Bondage," "Nobody Lives Forever," "San Antonio."

Independent

Finished: "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" (W. R. Frank).

Review

"And Now Tomorrow"

(Paramount)

Hollywood, Oct. 16

ACCORDING to Dr. Gallup's Audience Research Institute, a story about a doctor will always make money, and there's additional assurance here in the fact that Alan Ladd is the doctor. It must be admitted, however, that he is more at ease with a gun in his hand than with a scalpel. Loretta Young gives a fine, sensitive performance as a young woman of wealth whose snobbishness, as well as her deafness, isolate her from the rest of the world. Susan Hayward, Cecil Kellaway and Grant Mitchell contribute competently to smaller roles.

The screenplay, by Frank Partos and Raymond Chandler, is based on a novel by Rachel Field. It is a strong, emotional story about a young woman—beautiful, rich, and engaged to an eligible young man—who becomes stone deaf as the result of an attack of meningitis. She refuses to marry the man of her choice until such time as her affliction is cured. Her fiancé, a young man of mixed ideals, feels duty-bound to marry her, and yet sees no great harm in playing around with her sister. The triangle is transferred into a square when Alan Ladd appears. He has developed a new technique for the treatment of deafness and applies it successfully to Miss Young. At the same time he cures her of other things as well: notably her snobbishness, and her delusion that she loves her fiancé. So it all ends happily, with a double wedding in the background.

Associate producer Fred Kohlmar has lavished thoughtfulness and care upon the film. Irving Pichel's direction extracts the utmost from both players and story. All in all, "And Now Tomorrow" is a fine piece of work.

Running time, 84 minutes. "G."* Released in block No. 2.

THALIA BELL.

"G" denotes general classification.

No Ruling on SIMPP Crescent Case Move

(Continued from page 1)

the effect of the defendants' (Crescent's) practices on independent exhibitor competition.

"But the SIMPP believes that the defendants' practices are equally fraught with peril to independent producers such as those who comprise the membership of the Society," he asserted.

"Furthermore," he said, "the Society believes that the defendants' activities represent a grave menace to the motion picture industry as a whole, and that they impinge upon rights of the movie-going public which are protected by the first amendment."

Hearing of argument in the Crescent case, tentatively scheduled for this week, has been deferred until after Nov. 6 because of the crowded condition of the Court calendar. The Court will recess for two weeks beginning next Monday.

Theatres Aid Soviet

DES MOINES, Oct. 16.—Early reports show that the Clothing for Russia drive sponsored in Iowa by the state War Activities Committee, will probably exceed the two million-pound goal set by A. H. Blank, WAC head. Clothing was collected in more than 200 Iowa theatres through the co-operation of both independent and affiliated exhibitors.

Blumenthol Gets Post

Maurice M. Blumenthol, formerly field supervisor for Warner Bros. Theatres, and more recently a public accountant, has joined the Willmark Service System as assistant comptroller.

U. S. Gives Major Aid to Mexicans

Merwin Travis, general manager of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, during a recent visit here from Hollywood, stated that our Government, through the agencies of the MPSA and the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs office, has largely counteracted the influence of England and Germany previously exerted in the Latin-American film markets, especially Argentina, through their aid in technical advice and equipment. Mexico has now become the outstanding South American producer, and will make from 60-70 features in 1944, he said, principally through our grants of raw stock and equipment to that country. Some 35,000,000 feet go to Mexico annually, he said, and our Government was recently forced to deny a further request for an additional 10,000,000 feet in order to meet expanded demand, because of our own critical raw stock situation.

New Studio

Indicating a desire to see a greater interchange of Latin-American product than previously, Travis said that Hollywood producers were gradually, with encouragement and advice of the MPSA and CIAA, extending their production activities to Mexico. RKO is building a studio in Mexico City in conjunction with Mexican industry and government interests and plans to produce three or four subjects in English and Spanish versions between there and Hollywood, he said. Republic, 20th Century-Fox and United Artists are other producers making pictures in that country, Travis said.

'Stars' Hosts Services

The 11th annual "Night of Stars," set for Madison Square Garden, Nov. 14, will have 2,000 members of the Armed Forces as guests. The committee in charge has reserved tickets to be distributed through the Defense Recreation Committee here.

Altec Shows 2-Way Theatre Speaker

(Continued from page 1)

postwar. Also demonstrated was a two-way loud speaker system for theatres.

G. L. Carrington, president of Altec Service Corp., called to order the conference of district managers at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. He declared that the Altec men represent the largest group of sound technicians in the United States, responsible for maintaining sound and service in 6,000 theatres and rendering technical guidance for equipment overseas.

Carrington said, "This year's conference necessitated the attendance of the entire Altec district manager personnel to meet at Hollywood with the industry's sound technicians for discussions and demonstration of postwar technique in the design, manufacture and service of electronic apparatus associated with the theatre business.

HVC Performances Now Total 34,151

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—As September closed, Hollywood Victory Committee statistics on performances for the armed services rose to a total of 3,433 individuals making 34,151 appearances since the committee was organized three days after Pearl Harbor. In September alone, the committee assigned 396 performers who made 1,511 performances, its report issued today revealed.

Fred Astaire, Bing Crosby, Marlene Dietrich, Spike Jones and Dinah Shore led groups in France. Judith Anderson, Jack Benny, Bob Hope and Spencer Tracy worked in the Pacific areas, while Ann Sheridan and Ben Blue performed in the China-Burma-India theatre.

Restrict Hours for Children Admissions

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 16.—Barring of school children of classroom age on a voluntary basis as a means of helping solve what is becoming a serious situation in juvenile delinquency has been agreed to here following a meeting of the California Theatres Association.

Acting on requests of the district attorney's office and the Board of Education, all theatres affiliated with the association have agreed to refuse admission to children of grammar school age before two p.m. on school days and after eight p.m. unless accompanied by an older person.

California Probes Writers' Congress

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—Inquiry into the inception and ideological aspects of the Writers Congress conducted at the University of California at Los Angeles in June of 1943 was made by the State Legislature's Committee on Un-American Activities last week. Witnesses at the two days of hearings included: Marc Connelly, John Howard Lawson, Prof. Ralph Freud, Mrs. Pauline Lauber Flinn, Robert Salt, Nicholas Bela, Paul Trivers and Mischa Altman. No official report on the hearings was issued by the Committee on Un-American Activities.

Ladd's Back

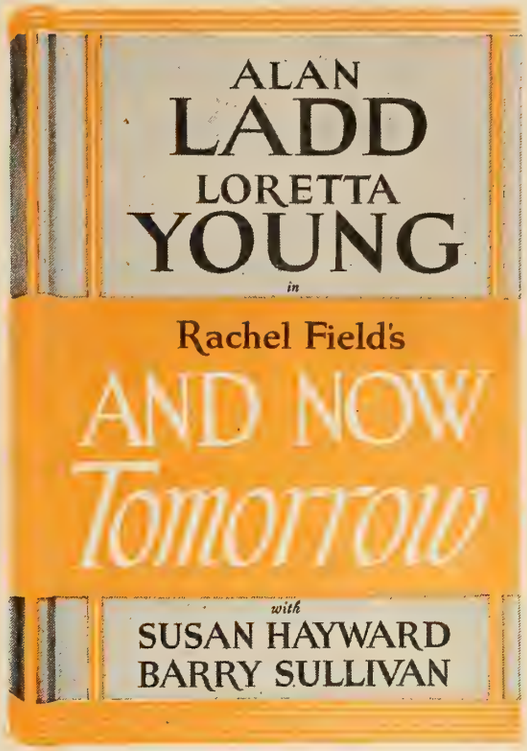
FROM THE ARMY, IN HIS FIRST PICTURE SINCE HE ZOOMED TO SUPERSTARDOM IN RECORD-BREAKING "CHINA" 18 MONTHS AGO

For

Thanks to

And Beulah Bondi and Cecil Kellaway. Directed by IRVING PICHEL. Screenplay by Frank Partos and Raymond Chandler.

(And for Christmas



Thanksgiving

ANDSOMER AND MORE MAGNETIC THAN
VER IN A TOTALLY DIFFERENT ROLE—HIS
IGGEST AND MOST IMPORTANT PRODUCTION

Paramount

FOR THE MOST DISTINGUISHED HOLIDAY ATTRAC-
TION AVAILABLE—FROM THE BEST-SELLER BY
THE AUTHOR OF "ALL THIS, AND HEAVEN TOO"

All-Time-Record-Breaking "Frenchman's Creek")

Box Offices Will Decide Video Future

(Continued from page 1)

television pass them by and freeze them out. They, and they alone have the one thing which has bothered many of those who have studied the economics of television. They have the answer to the question 'Who is going to pay for television?' They have the box office!"

Austrian cited many ways in which exhibitors can make television economically feasible. They involve the exclusive presentation of features like prize fights, horse races, baseball and football games, concerts and other spot events. They could recoup the cost of securing such events exclusively by added patronage and increased admission prices while playing regular film programs, Austrian said. Theatre television as envisaged by Austrian would be a supplement, in most cases, of a regular film program. He said that in many cases, audiences in theatres would be given a better presentation of an event by television than they would receive if they attended the event personally and were forced to view it from a disadvantageous spot.

A. T. & T. Facilities

Harold S. Osborne, chief engineer of American Telephone and Telegraph Co., another speaker at the session, cited the facilities which are now available and contemplated to make inter-city and intra-city theatre television links possible. Osborne described the functions of the present three and four million cycle band cable links which are now available and the seven million cycle coaxial cable constructions which are contemplated in providing these links.

"Television transmission stands today," Osborne said, "where sound transmission stood 20 years ago." He pointed out that intra-city television links can now be provided by specially adapted telephone links. By wave guides, an adaptation of the coaxial cable, it is also possible to transmit television images in the very high frequencies, Osborne pointed out. A further method will be provided in the radio-relay link which the Bell System plans to construct between New York and Boston. Osborne said that A.T. and T. has already started the manufacture of coaxial cable with which it hopes to link key cities from coast-to-coast by 1950.

Epstein Paper

A paper on "Television Projection" was read at the afternoon session by Dr. David W. Epstein of RCA, representing experimentation with projecting the image on the cathode ray tube both in theatres and in the home. Dr. I. G. Maloff of RCA and Dr. Epstein have been experimenting with a mirror reflector and a corrective lens to improve the quality of the image and report progress has been made in overcoming some of the obstacles presented by the loss of image quality in projection. Dr. Epstein cited the use of plastic lucite for lenses to overcome the problem of manufacturing suitable corrective lenses for projecting images.

D. E. Hyndman, SMPE engineering vice-president, cited some of the current work of SMPE's engineering committees in a report on the organization. Raymond Spottiswoode of the Canadian National Film Board told of some of the recent developments at the National Film Board of Canada. Other papers on sound recording, lighting and developing of film were read.

The sessions will continue today and tomorrow. A dinner-dance will be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania tonight.

'Industry in Strongest Position in Postwar'

(Continued from page 1)

that "the industry will have the opportunity of playing a post-war role of the greatest significance in helping to unite the peoples of all lands through a common bond of ideals and sympathies," according to the statement from his office.

Cowdin asserted, "The industry's 16mm gift films to our Armed Forces have had an estimated attendance of 300,000,000 persons in uniform. Thousands of fighting men when they return to civilian life will bring back with them the 'movie-going' habit to a greater degree than ever before. This will be a factor in post-war attendance."

Discussing the belief in some quarters that there will be a falling off of national income at the war's end and that as a result theatre attendance will be adversely affected, Cowdin stated: "Even if such a decline in national income should be fairly sharp, it is not likely motion picture revenues will be affected to any comparable degree for a substantial period in view of the huge accumulation of savings in the hands of the public. The 'movies', past experience indicates, are among the last things that people will give up. Following the last war, when the industry was in its infancy, there was but a slight falling off followed by a substantial increase, which lasted for a long period.

90,000,000 a Week

"The war has served to emphasize the basic nature of the motion picture industry. Going to the 'movies' is an integral part of life in America and many other countries. Theatre attendance in this country alone averages 90,000,000 a week. Entertainment, in fact, is a fundamental need of all humanity and the motion picture is easily the most universally popular of all forms of mass entertainment. It has the further advantage of being inexpensive and a cash business. Thousands of small communities rely almost entirely upon the 'movie' and radio for their entertainment. The 'movies' are, in effect, a necessity, and this imparts a strong element of fundamental stability to the industry. The 'movie' box-office, of course, to some degree reflects the ebb and flow of general economic conditions, but to a less marked extent than most other industries. This industry is among the last to feel a depression, and among the first to respond to a revival. History shows that good pictures will always find a substantial market.

"The motion picture industry is fortunate in that it faces no re-conversion problem, although studios and theatres will require new equipment to replace that worn out during the war," Cowdin stated.

"From an operating standpoint, the industry will benefit at the war's end by the return of highly specialized personnel who, because of the training and experience required, could not be replaced effectively during the war and this should result in the lowering of basic unit costs, as well as again making available many stars who are today in our government's service.

"When building materials are again available, it is expected that a large number of new theatres will be constructed to meet the growth and changes in population and to replace theatres that have become obsolescent. These new theatres will contain many improvements.

"In view of the importance of the 'movies' in providing wholesome, inexpensive relaxation to the mass of the American people, the increase in admission taxes to 20 per cent, while perhaps acceptable as a war measure, will prove highly unpopular when peace returns and a movement to eliminate or reduce it will have strong support.

New Markets

"It is our belief that the overall foreign business available to the major picture companies will be extremely large in the post-war despite the problems of foreign exchange, restrictive measures by foreign governments and competition from foreign film industries. The liberation of Europe, and later Asia, will not only permit the re-opening of previous markets but there is every indication that new markets will be created.

"Universal Pictures looks with confidence to the post-war era as an opportunity for further progress. It entered 1944-45 with more and, we believe, better pictures.

"Anticipating that 'war pictures' would lose their popularity, Universal has eliminated such features from its 1944-45 schedule.

"While Universal has been unduly penalized from an earning standpoint during the war period through its low tax credit base, nevertheless, as long as such high tax levels prevail it would require a serious reduction in gross profits in order to affect net profits materially. In the post-war period, should there be, as anticipated, a substantial reduction in the Federal corporate tax rate, attendance figures can decline rather substantially and still leave Universal with net earnings as large or larger than those currently enjoyed," Cowdin concluded.

RCA Head Sees Vast Television Growth

Television, radar and other wartime developments in radio-electronics have brought the American radio industry to the threshold of another great era of expansion, greater even than the achievements of the last quarter of a century, Lieut. Gen. James G. Harbord, chairman of the board of RCA, declares in a statement commemorating the observance of RCA's 25th anniversary.

WPB Urges Making Projector Parts

(Continued from page 1)

of WPB told MOTION PICTURE DAILY here yesterday.

Smith urged manufacturers to contact their local WPB for permission, promising the cooperation of the WPB theatre equipment section which will be consulted. Smith said that about 200 extra rectifiers used in projection booths to convert AC current to usable DC current will be available during the current quarter and in the first quarter of 1945 as a result of such action by the Baldor Electric Co., St. Louis securing permission for their manufacture from the WPB. These will be in addition to 730 authorized previously.

Smith said that the regional boards now have authority to act on all applications to manufacture much-needed projection machine parts. He indicated that there is still a particularly critical situation as far as ball bearings are concerned.

Smith is attending the sessions of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' 56th semi-annual technical conference as a WPB observer.

Amend Repair Rules On VendingMachines

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The War Production Board today announced that manufacture of parts for the repair or renovation of vending will be permitted to the extent that the use of materials for the purpose is allowed by materials conservation orders.

Limitation order No. L-21, covering automatic vending machines, phonographs and other amusement and gaming machines used in theatres and other public places was amended after two and one-half years during which the use of metals for that purpose was prohibited.

FCC to Hear Views On Film Television

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The Federal Communications Commission tomorrow will hear the views of film and various others interested in postwar television, but it appears that it may not reach Paul Raibourn, who is scheduled to discuss the subject for Balaban and Katz. He is the 13th of 20 speakers listed for tomorrow.

Because it had previously scheduled another group to be heard Wednesday, and is desirous of keeping that engagement, the FCC plans to go as far as it can with the television witnesses and then postpone hearing the rest until later. A considerable part of tomorrow's hearing will be devoted to the discussion of CBS and NBC television views.

PRC Southeast Meet

ATLANTA, Oct. 16.—Representatives of the Atlanta and Charlotte branches of PRC met recently to hear Ike Katz, head of the company's Southeast division, report on his recent visit to Hollywood. New product and sales methods were discussed. Others who attended were Harry Katz, W. H. Rudisill, A. B. Block, D. O. Graham and A. D. Lewis, all from the Atlanta office, and E. R. Heller and R. M. Boovy, from Charlotte.

$130,000 for 'Parkington'

(Continued from page 1)

directed to the Paramount, where personal appearances of Frank Sinatra, appearing on the stage, with "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" on the screen, caused frequent 'riots' among mulling throngs of 'bobby-sock' brigades, which, on one morning, brought out 433 policemen to control the hysterical youngsters—and Sinatra came up with a big $95,000 for the week.

New films at the Roxy, Hollywood and Criterion are also doing outstanding business.

"Laura," combined with a stage bill featuring Hazel Scott and Jackie Miles, at the Roxy, is expected to bring in an outstanding $105,000 on the first week on the basis of $85,000 taken in the first five days. The combined show will get at least three weeks at the Roxy with "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" set to follow. A near record $46,000 is expected for the first week of "To Have and Have Not" at the Hollywood on the basis of a heavy $35,000 taken in on the first five days. "Rhapsody in Blue" is the next film for this house, but its opening seems to be a bit removed. Business is building at the Criterion where "The Merry Monahans" is headed for a lusty $35,000 in its first week based on $28,000 taken in on the first four days.

Holdovers Score

Holdovers are also scoring impressively. "The Seventh Cross," with a stage bill featuring Horace Heidt and his musical aggregation, are expected to bring the Capitol $65,000 in a third week; the combination will continue. A neat $44,000 is expected for the seventh and final week of "Arsenic and Old Lace" and a stage bill at the Strand. "The Conspirators," with a stage bill headed by Les Brown and band, will open at the Strand Friday.

"Frenchman's Creek," at the Rivoli, and "Kismet," at the Astor are holding up excellently. "Creek" is expected to bring about $53,000 in its fourth week; "Kismet" grossed an estimated $25,000 in an eighth week ending last night. "American Romance" will follow. "Barbary Coast Gent" is expected to complete a third and final week tonight at the Globe with $14,500. "Sweet and Lowdown" will open tomorrow. A good $15,000 is expected on the third week of "Wilson" at the Victoria, following the eight-week run at the Roxy, and the film will continue.

"Dangerous Journey" will finish a third and final week at the Gotham Friday with about $8,500; "Summer Storm" will take over Saturday. "Music in Manhattan" is expected to bring about $14,500 in a second and final week at the Palace; "Heavenly Days" will succeed Friday. A quiet $6,000 is expected for the second week of "My Pal, Wolf" at the Republic. The Rialto expects a mild $6,000 in the second week of "Dead Man's Eyes."

Sarnoff Cited

Col. David Sarnoff, on military leave from his post as president of RCA and board chairman of NBC, has been awarded the Legion of Merit for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service." Col Sarnoff is credited with the "D-Day" communications arrangements.

Distributors Agree on 6th 'Bond Premiere' Films

(Continued from page 1)

formance only, known as a "War Bond Premiere," any picture the exhibitor has under contract, but not earlier than 30 days prior to its availability for booking at his theatre; provided exhibitors having clearance do not object; reissues will be considered the same as new pictures.

As a special inducement for sales of bonds to and by children, the distributors agree to also furnish a picture for a "Children's Morning Premiere" under the same conditions as outlined above.

In order to increase the number of bond premieres in small towns, the distributors agree to furnish a picture for such purposes to any exhibitor requesting one, even though that exhibitor may not have the picture under contract and regardless of whether the exhibitor is a regular customer of the distributor or not, provided the population of the exhibitor's town is not over 7,500, and the picture booked for the premiere shall have been generally released prior to May 1, 1944.

The distributors have endorsed the plans of the Sixth War Loan campaign committee for a "National Free Movie Day" on Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7, and have agreed on free admission on that day to each bond purchaser. The distributors will also provide pictures for repeat showings at "War Bond Premieres."

Excluded from the agreement are such features as may be handled at advanced admission prices.

Hertz Names 49 Aides

Forty-nine state publicists and exploiteers named here yesterday by John Hertz, Sixth War Bond publicity chairman, to coordinate local bond promotions and publicity, follow:

Alabama, Bill Wolfson, Montgomery; Arizona, A. G. Pickett, Phoenix; Arkansas, Sam Kirby, North Little Rock; California, Seymour Peiser, Los Angeles; Mort Goodman, Hollywood; Fay Reeder, San Francisco; Colorado, Margaret Goyette, Denver; Connecticut, Lou Brown, New Haven; Delaware, Edgar J. Doob, Wilmington; Florida, J. L. Cartwright, Tampa; Georgia, Spence Pierce, Atlanta; Illinois, Bill Bishop, Chicago; Indiana, Ken Collins, Indianapolis; Iowa, Dale McFarland, Des Moines; Kansas, Woody Barritt, Wichita.

Also: Kentucky, Lew Hensler, Lexington; Louisiana, Maurice F. Barr, New Orleans; Maine, C. J. Russell, Sr., Bangor; Maryland, Louis E. Shecter, Baltimore; Massachusetts, Harry Browning, Boston; Michigan, Betty Smith, Detroit; Minnesota, Norman Pyle, Minneapolis; Mississippi, Burgess Waltmon, Columbus; Missouri, Jerry Zigmond, Kansas City; Montana, Jack Edwards, Helena; Nebraska, Ted Emerson, Omaha; Nevada, Harry Hunsaker, Reno; New Hampshire, Frank K. Eldridge, Concord; New Jersey, George Kelly, Newark; Eli M. Drowitz, Camden; New Mexico, George Tucker, Albuquerque; New York, Charles Smakwitz, Albany; Charles B. Taylor, Buffalo; Harry Mandell, New York City; North Carolina, Roy L. Smart, Charlotte.

Also: North Dakota, Ed Krauss, Fargo; Ohio, J. R. Watson, Cincinnati; Charles Deardourff, Cleveland; Oklahoma, Robert Busch, Oklahoma City; Oregon, Jack Matlack, Portland; Pennsylvania, James M. Totman, Pittsburgh; South Carolina; Sam Suggs, Columbia; South Dakota, Cliff Knowles, Mitchell, and Ken Peters, Pierre; Tennessee, E. W. Street, Knoxville, and J. R. McEachron, Jackson; Texas, Ray Beall, Dallas; Utah, Helen Garrity, Salt Lake City; Vermont, Eugene C. Keenan, Newport; Virginia, Brock Whitlock, Richmond; Washington, D. C., Frank LaFalce; Washington, Vic Gauntlett, Seattle; West Virginia, partial, James M. Totman; Wisconsin, William V. Geehan, Milwaukee; Wyoming, G. H. Turner, Lusk.

6th Bond Co-chairmen Meet via Telephone

To facilitate understanding with his group of nine co-chairmen and in the interest of efficiency due to travel emergencies, Harry Brandt, national chairman for the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan drive, held a nine-city telephone conference yesterday with his co-chairmen in Los Angeles, Dallas, Minneapolis, Chicago, St. Louis, Salt Lake City and Des Moines, to report to each a complete picture of plans now formulated for the campaign.

Speaking from New York, in addition to Brandt, were Ned E. Depinet, Jay Emanuel, Max Cohen, Francis Harmon, Ted Lloyd and John Hertz, Jr. Among the co-chairmen tied into the "round-robin" telephone discussions were: Hugh Bruen, Los Angeles; Henry Reeve, Dallas; Al Steffes, Minneapolis; Jack Kirsch, Chicago; Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis; John Rugar, Salt Lake City; Leo Wolcott, Des Moines. Nathan Yamins of Boston was enroute to a meeting at Charleston, W. Va.

Shanklin Warns of U. S. Tax Threat

(Continued from page 1)

the meeting, at which the principal subjects will be taxation, both state and Federal, the consent decree, small-block picture buying and postwar planning.

J. C. Shanklin, convention chairman will tell members that since it appears likely that the Treasury will once again try to put through an extra 10 per cent ticket tax, it is up to exhibitors to be prepared to impress the Government tax commission that theatres are already overtaxed.

Herbert Hayman Dies

BALTIMORE, Oct. 16.—Herbert Hayman, manager of the Capitol Theatre here, a Rome circuit house, died suddenly last Friday. Hayman was formerly a United Artists representative. His home was in New York.

Harry Godfrey, 54, Dies

Harry Godfrey, 54, production and copyright manager of Mills Music, Inc., died recently in Queens General Hospital after a long illness. He is survived by his widow, two daughters, his mother and three sisters.

Schine Sale Is Confirmed

(Continued from page 1)

and Appalachia in Appalachia, Va., the Viv in Corbin, Ky., and the Liberty in Pikeville, Ky.

In approving the sale after a week's delay, Federal Judge John C. Knight told Willard S. McKay, Schine counsel, that the four theatres should have been offered for sale to independent exhibitors generally and reminded him that in sales of the other five houses, offers must first be submitted to the court.

Testifying as a Government witness, as trial of the Government's anti-trust suit against the Schine Circuit resumed in Federal court here today, Harry Schwartz, former owner and operator of the Opera House, Lexington, Ky., declared he had first and second runs for his house when he was in competition with the Phoenix Amusement Co., prior to 1936 but that when Schine took over that concern's Lexington theatres he could get no better than fourth run product.

Phoenix operated the Kentucky, Strand and State, which were acquired by Schine in November, 1936. He mentioned specifically M-G-M's selling first, second and third runs to Schine after that deal and giving him fourth run for the Opera House, telling of conversations he had with M-G-M's Cincinnati branch manager, E. A. Booth.

Involves 20th-Fox

When Schwartz told of the Schine houses lowering their admission prices, Robert L. Wright, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, openly placed 20th-Fox in the category of co-conspirator on grounds it allegedly permitted Schine to lower prices for exhibition of its product. After Schine took over the Opera House, Schwartz testified, admission prices at that house were raised.

In cross-examination, Saul E. Rogers sought to show that Schwartz received nothing but "courteous treatment" from Schine.

Bernard Ulman, Baltimore; Md., manufacturing pharmacist and president of a corporation which operates the Ulman and New Theatres, Salisbury, Md., testified as to attempts made by John May of Schine Circuit in 1941 to acquire the leases on the two houses. Thomas E. Ayres of Seaford, Del., operator of the Palace, Seaford, the Layton and the Sussex Theatres, Georgetown, Md., also testified as to offers to buy his theatres by May in 1938-39.

Harrison, Industry Veteran, Dies at 56

Saul E. Harrison, 56, specialist in the film department of the Army Signal Corps in Long Island City, died over the weekend at his home in the Bronx.

Harrison, associated with the industry since its earliest days, worked with the old Edison company as an actor and a director. In 1911 he joined Kalem and later directed for Cosmopolitan, Paramount, Fox and others. He became a civilian worker with the Army in 1942. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Belle Harrison and two brothers.

STORM OVER LISBON

Starring

VERA HRUBA RALSTON • RICHARD ARLEN

ERICH VON STROHEIM

WITH

OTTO KRUGER • EDUARDO CIANNELLI

ROBERT LIVINGSTON • MONA BARRIE

GEORGE SHERMAN, Director

Original Story by ELIZABETH MEEHAN • Adaptation by DANE LUSSIER

Screenplay by DORIS GILBERT

4 BIG WEEKS

REPUBLIC THEATRE

BROADWAY, N.Y.

Woman of mystery in a city of intrigue...

ALLURING!
BEWITCHING!
and DANGEROUS!

Men sold their country's secrets to win her lips, her loveliness, her love!

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

'Way' Still Way Up In Its 7th Week

TORONTO, Oct. 16.—"Going My Way" brought brightness to Shea's for a seventh week with a promised $11,300.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 19:

"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Janie" (WB)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $12,800).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $11,200).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 7th week. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $12 800).

"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).

"The Climax" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $9,800).

Disney Says Films Aid Rehabilitation

Walt Disney, opening the New York *Herald-Tribune* "Annual Forum on Current Problems," at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here last night, stated that the screen cartoon has been so improved and refined that no technical problem is insurmountable, and added that it must be made available to the widest possible non-theatrical audiences.

"I believe that the returned soldier, accustomed to instruction from the screen, will be enthusiastically receptive to pictures that will help incorporate him into the ways of peace," Disney declared.

Youngest Booker

DES MOINES, Oct. 16.—Believed to to be the youngest exchange booker and office manager in the nation is Miss Zora Fini, 19, recently appointed to these posts at Monogram here.

Reviews

"The Man in Halfmoon Street"

(*Paramount*)

Hollywood, Oct. 16

BETTER than its billing—and longer than its billing suggests, yet not too long—"The Man In Halfmoon Street, poses something of a problem as to programming but none as to entertainment. A considered, polished and intelligent treatment of the perpetual-youth theme so often abused in slipshod melodramatics, the film ranks with the best of its kind, lacking only name calibre to hold its own as top-spot merchandise.

Under Ralph Murphy's expert direction, Nils Aster, Helen Walker, Rheinhold Schunzel, Paul Cavanagh, Edmond Breen, Morton Lowry and other competent players perform smoothly and with plausibility in a story about two doctors, endocrinologists, who have been conducting a perpetual-youth experiment for 60 years, one of them operating on the other at ten-year intervals to maintain him always as a man of 35 while the other ages normally. Since each of the operations has entailed sacrifice of a human life, there is a string of murders behind them, and Scotland Yard finally picks up the trail, but it is the operating doctor's refusal to continue with the experiment which leads to the other's abrupt transition from youthfulness to advanced age and sudden death. All this is adroitly and plausibly narrated in Charles Kenyon's excellent script based on a play by Barre Lyndon. Producer Walter MacEwen has a picture superior to its category.

Running time, 90 minutes. "G."* Release date not set. WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Law of the Valley"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Oct. 16

JOHNNY MACK BROWN and Raymond Hatton, called in to help an old friend, become involved in a murder. It is no trick at all, however, for the two cowboys to uncover the plot behind the killing and bring the guilty to justice. They do it with their usual ease and aplomb, inspired by the love of justice and a very charming young woman, Lynne Carver.

Tom Quinn is the most menacing of the three villains in the case. Edmund Cobb and Charles King give him able, if illegal, support. The story and screenplay were by Joseph O'Donnell, who sticks to the accepted Western formula. Howard Bretherton's direction is satisfactory, and Marcel LePicard contributes some effective photography. The production was supervised by Charles J Bigelow.

Running time, 52 minutes. "G."* Release date, Nov. 4. THALIA BELL

"G" denotes general classification.

de Rochemont in London

Richard de Rochemont, executive producer for March of Time, has arrived in London as war correspondent for MOT, the company reported here yesterday. D. Y. Bradshaw, associate producer, will substitute for de Rochemont here in his absence.

Golden 'Master Race' Premiere Tomorrow

Executives and stars from RKO's studio and home office will leave Hollywood and New York today by plane for Dallas to attend the world premiere of "The Master Race" tomorrow, in more than 100 cities in Texas and Oklahoma, with the Majestic, Dallas, as the focal point.

Plans have been completed for a celebration in Dallas under sponsorship of the Texas Quality Network and local newspapers. Bob O'Donnell of Interstate Circuit heads the committee which set up the arrangements.

In addition to Charles W. Koerner and other officials, the studio delegation will include cast members Nancy Gates, Eric Feldary, Jason Robards, Ghislaine Perreau, and Herbert Biberman, director. From the home office, RKO will be represented by Ned E. Depinet, Robert Mochrie, Nat Levy, and the producers of "The Master Race," Edward Golden and Robert Golden.

Condon Joins 'This Week'

Robert Condon, recently resigned from the War Activities Committee as assistant to Francis S. Harmon, coordinator, has joined the staff of *This Week*, Sunday magazine supplement as an associate editor.

Names Kathryn Fecke

Kathryn Fecke has been named head of the motion picture, television, radio and amusement department of Position Securing Bureau. Mrs. Fecke was formerly a researcher with Young & Rubicam.

MGM TRADE SHOW
"NATIONAL VELVET"
N. Y. - N. J. Territories Only
MGM SCREENING ROOM
630 9th AVENUE, N.Y.C.
THURSDAY Oct. 19 } 10:30 am also 2:30 pm

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 16

RKO has acquired "Beat the Band," George Abbott stage production written by George Marion, Jr., for production as a major musical. . . . Paramount has borrowed Henry O'Neill from M-G-M for a principal role in "The Virginian," which is growing into quite a project with four co-stars: Joel McCrea, Brian Donlevy, Sonny Tufts and Barbara Britton. . . . Cora Sue Collins will play the lead in "Our Wandering Daughters," Columbia's contribution to juvenile delinquency pictures.

•

Vera Ralston will star, without skates, in "The Healer," a Republic undertaking to be produced and directed by Steve Sekely. . . . Roddy McDowall, one of the top ten "Stars-of-Tomorrow" in the Motion Picture Herald-Fame poll, has been added to the roster of principals in 20th Century-Fox's "Molly, Bless Her," the story about the late Marie Dressler, which will co-star Monty Woolley and Gracie Fields. . . . Production of "Jubal Troop," by Sam Wood, for Columbia, has been postponed until next Spring, according to studio announcement, which goes on to say that an arrangement is being worked out between the studio and the producer for offer of "The Land Is Bright" to another studio for purchase. Additionally, Wood is described as retaining full rights to "Tatiana" and "Turnip's Blood," both of which, like "Land Is Bright," had been announced previously as forthcoming Columbia productions.

•

Twentieth Century-Fox has purchased rights to Somerset Maugham's "The Razor's Edge." . . . Universal's writer-producer team, Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, will make one titled "Not for Children," scheduled to go into production when "That's the Spirit" is completed. . . . Ann Savage has been signed by Paramount producers William Pine and William Thomas for three pictures. Her first will be "You'll Be the Death of Me."

•

Elyse Knox has been signed to a three-year Monogram contract which calls for two pictures annually. Her first assignment under the new deal is "Sunbonnet Sue." . . . Columbia has purchased an original story, "Gilda," and assigned it to Sam Bischoff to produce.

•

Michael Curtiz, last year's Academy-awards director, has been named to direct Warner's "Mildred Pierce," Joan Crawford's first for the studio.

•

M-G-M today gave James A. Fitzpatrick a new contract calling for 12 "Traveltalks" in color annually. He has been with the company 15 years.

Bonded Film Storage Corp.
LOWEST RATES
TWICE-A-DAY DELIVERY SERVICE
SAFETY-SECURITY
1600 BROADWAY N.Y.C.
Circle 6-0081-2-3-4
STORAGE & C. A. PROJECTION ROOM FILM EXCHANGE DISTRIBUTION SERVICE

COPPER still critical!

COPPER is still on the critical shortage list of essential war materials. It was never more necessary that every last possible ounce of it be saved.

The copper that drops from your Victory and "Orotip" Carbons to the bottom of your lamp housings, and that which you strip from stubs, quickly finds its way back into essential products of war when you turn it in to your distributor or local salvage headquarters.

Your cooperation has been most effective. Your Government urges you to keep it up! And for further saving of copper . . . and for efficient use of carbons . . . a bulletin describing completely the operation of Victory High Intensity Carbons . . . "National," "Suprex," and "Orotip" . . . has been in general distribution. If you have not received your copy, write today. National Carbon Company, Inc., Cleveland 1, Ohio, Dept. 9-J.

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UCC

General Offices: 30 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.

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The registered trade-marks "National," "Suprex," and "Orotip," distinguish products of National Carbon Company, Inc.

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M★G★MAGIC

The glories of "Kismet" in rich Technicolor!
"Mrs. Parkington," a production of magnitude!
Mighty "American Romance," Technicolor Titan!
The Bigness of "Seventh Cross"!
Wonderful Technicolorful "Meet Me In St. Louis"!
Never-ending is the magic of M-G-M
We shoot the bank-roll to bring you HITS!
Read what the trade paper Film Bulletin says:
"This M-G-M lot is humming with big things—
Mammoth sets . . . The Penn Station in New York—
A famed tourist street in Los Angeles—
A WAC dormitory—Lake Arrowhead Hotel—
Even the Rocky Mountains are not immune—
These are added reasons why M-G-M
Outspends all other film studios."
Right you are, Film Bulletin, and they're
Added reasons for Leo's Leadership!

MGM

Keep Selling Bonds!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 75 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Obstacles Seen In Reentering European Mart

US Will Aid Industry Reestablish: Golden

The American film industry will have greater obstacles to overcome in reestablishing itself in Continental Europe after the war than it faced in those countries before the war, according to Nathan D. Golden, chief of the motion picture division of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

"The Government," Golden said in an interview here yesterday, "will make every effort to help the American industry reestablish itself in liberated countries and is acquainted with what the industry has to face." Golden is visiting New York from Washington.

Chief among the obstacles which

(*Continued on page* 12)

Schine Trial Off Till Next Monday

BUFFALO, Oct. 17.—To permit Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice to return to Washington, where he will fulfill previous commitments in connection with other anti-trust suits, the Schine trial in Federal court here was adjourned today until next Monday. It was learned reliably that the Government will complete its case against Schine in four or five days next week and that the defendants will begin their defense the week following. There also will be

(*Continued on page* 12)

Hyman Heads W. Va. Managers Again

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Oct. 17.—The West Virginia Managers Association meeting here today reelected the following officers: S. J. Hyman, Huntington, president; J. C. Shanklin, Ronceverte, assistant to the president and convention chairman, and W. H. Holt, Richwood, secretary-treasurer.

Today's session was addressed by Freeman Smith of Kentucky; Nathan Yamins of the national War Activities Committee, who spoke on the forthcoming Sixth War Loan, and Lieut. Rice. About 80 exhibitors and others from the industry attended tonight's banquet.

Rank Seen in Deal With Odeon, Canada

Toronto, Oct. 17.—Negotiations between J. Arthur Rank, London, and important Canadian interests have reached the stage where a big deal affecting the Dominion can be expected, presumably with Paul Nathanson's Odeon Circuit, according to a reliable informant.

Rank emissary John Davis is en route to Toronto from London with the final draft of a contract, which will have a long-term clause.

Studio Fan Photos Carry Bond Appeals

Three quarters of a million appeals to buy bonds at theatres will go from stars to fans during the Sixth War Loan campaign, it was disclosed here yesterday in a wire from the Public Information Committee, Western division, to John Hertz, Jr., War Activities Committee publicity chairman for the drive.

Beginning four weeks before the campaign, a 'personalized appeal' will be inserted with every star photograph mailed to fans from Columbia, M-G-M, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Universal and Warner studios.

In asking support of the efforts of

(*Continued on page* 12)

Hyndman Heads SMPE; Capstaff, Others Get Awards

The election of Donald E. Hyndman of Eastman Kodak as 1945 president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, succeeding Herbert Griffin, was announced here last night at the dinner-dance of the SMPE's 56th semi-annual technical conference at the Hotel Pennsylvania. John A. Maurer will complete Hyndman's unexpired term as engineering vice-president.

The SMPE annual progress award for the year's best invention in the industry was given to John George Capstaff of Eastman Kodak for establishing a new field for amateur,

(*Continued on page* 12)

RKO Operates in Belgium, Rumania

Rumania and Belgium have resumed distribution of RKO Radio production, the company disclosed here yesterday following receipt of cables from Nicholas K. Cazazis, RKO manager for Rumania, relayed through Portugal and revealing that film operations have been resumed following two years of inactivity due to Nazi prohibition of American films.

All prints were saved by hiding

(*Continued on page* 12)

IATSE Out to Organize 5000 Theatre Help

Quietly Aiming at all Out-Front NY Workers

The IATSE has quietly embarked upon a campaign to organize 'front-of-the-house' employes in some 600 theatres in the Greater New York area; about 5,000 ushers, doormen, cashiers and children's matrons are involved.

Joseph D. Basson, IATSE executive, is spearheading the drive which is aimed at first enrolling the workers of affiliated circuits here, principally RKO and Loew's.

Incentive for the drive was supplied by the recently-negotiated contract re-

(*Continued on page* 12)

Hopper, Schenck Conferences Due

Harold Hopper, general manager of the M-G-M studio, is scheduled to confer with Nicholas M. Schenck here this week on studio administrative matters, among which may be the executive direction of the studio during the temporary absence of Louis B. Mayer, it was reported here yesterday.

Ranking company officials could not be reached for comment on the

(*Continued on page* 11)

Pioneers to Honor Walter Vincent

Dedicated to pioneer exhibitors, this year's annual dinner of the Picture Pioneers, schedued for Nov. 16 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, will pay special tribute to pioneer Walter Vincent, one of the founders of Wilmer and Vincent Theatres and now a partner with S. H. Fabian in that circuit. Vincent also is chairman of the board of Republic Pictures. Sam and George Dembow are co-chairmen of the dinner committee for the Pioneer's 'Motion Picture Exhibitors' Night'.

Single Film Sales Seen Inevitable Under Decree

DEPARTMENT of Justice officials maintain that their proposed amendments to Section 4 of the consent decree will not require distributors to sell pictures one at a time. Conceding that the proposed amendment, which would prohibit the conditioning of the licensing of one picture on the licensing of another, is not an order to sell pictures singly, distributors, nevertheless, contend that single picture selling would be the inevitable result of the adoption of the amendment. MOTION PICTURE DAILY, *as a service to exhibitors who have not had an opportunity to participate in discussions of the proposed amendment to Section 4, has obtained from distribution companies their opinions of the proposal and their reasons for believing it will result in the sale of pictures one at a time. The opinions are presented herewith.*

By EDWARD SMITH

A Paramount executive said: "Unquestionably this will force single picture selling. Should this amendment be made law, I will have no alternative but to recommend to my company that single selling become our method of distribution. To fail to do so would be to place an almost insurmountable hazard on our sales department. For example, let us say that we try to sell a group of five films to an exhibitor who desires two of them. We then offer to lower the entire price of the block of five, if he will take them all, or say that the two alone would cost more than he would normally expect to pay. In such a case he could tell a court, if he were so minded, that we had conditioned the selling of one film on the taking of another, and we would be liable to criminal contempt of court

(*Continued on page* 11)

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "Ministry of Fear" and "One Body Too Many," both Paramount, will be found on page 7.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distributor vice-president, was confined to his home yesterday with a cold.

•

ELLEN ROSENTHAL secretary to JACK COHN, Columbia executive vice-president, will be married in the near future to LIEUT. JEROME W. WEISFELDT of the Signal Corps Photographic Center. He is the son of M. J. WEISFELDT, Columbia sales executive, and was formerly with 20th Century-Fox.

•

HAROLD ROBB, head of Robb & Rowley Circuit, Dallas, is in St. Paul Hospital there undergoing treatment for an illness of several weeks' duration.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, Universal's assistant general sales manager, will arrive in Washington today.
for an illness.

•

SENATOR MACK JACKSON will celebrate his 25th anniversary in show business in Alexander City, Ala., Oct. 29.

•

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, assistant director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, will arrive today from studio conferences.

•

HARRY M. KALMINE, assistant general manager of Warner Theatres, and CLAYTON BOND, film buyer for the circuit, are in Washington.

•

TED SCHLANGER, zone manager for Warner Theatres in Philadelphia, and JOHN TURNER and LOU DAVIDOFF, film buyers there, are in New York.

•

RUSS BARFETT, manager of Warners, Capitol, Willimantic, Conn., announces the birth of a second son, JAMES CARLYLE.

•

SAM GARDNER, M-G-M branch manager at Salt Lake City, is back at his desk from a trip to Montana.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal's Western sales manager, left yesterday for a Midwest tour.

•

TOM DONALDSON, M-G-M branch manager in Boston, left New York for his headquarters yesterday.

•

MAURICE N. WOLFF, New England district manager for M-G-M, is in New York from Boston.

•

ALEC MOSS, Paramount exploitation manager, has returned from Atlanta and New Orleans.

•

MAURICE DOVBERG, manager of Warners' Liberty, Philadelphia, was married on Sunday.

•

L. J. KAUFMAN, film buyer for Warner Theatres, is on a trip to Ohio.

•

O. O. DULL, M-G-M producer, is in New York for a week.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Oct. 17

SUFFICIENT documentation has poured in from many directions to prove with finality the values of entertainment for men in combat areas. Preponderance of such documentation, however, deals with upholding morale and receding war fatigue through relaxation. Here is a reverse twist showing how military sinews were directly strengthened:

During the North African campaign, truck repairs were the chief business of a certain base behind the lines. Before films, a post exchange and a beer garden were introduced, the "AWOL" rate was high; so, too, with courts-martial. After the camp was fortified with these outlets, the AWOL rate collapsed to a neat zero, courts-martial did a complete disappearance and the work level increased sharply. How much of the change may be attributed to films, the PX or that beer garden is not known in precise measure. Admittedly, however, films figured in significantly.

Authority: Brig.-Gen. Joseph W. Byron, chief of the Army Special Services Division, whose function embraces all off-duty activities in the Army.

■ ■

Leon Fromkess, president of PRC Pictures and attendant companies so initialed, leaves for New York Saturday. The nature of his mission is interesting and confidential. Nevertheless, a tip is not amiss:

Tip No. 1 has a bearing on distribution. PRC now operates two exchanges of its own.

Tip No. 1 has a bearing on picture making. PRC, without haste and by plan, has been proceeding toward self-contained production. This requires manpower, above and beyond existing personnel, and, of course, means it must come from other sources.

■ ■

What was this about Bob Weitman retiring from Times Square, which means the Paramount Theatre, for Marathon Street, Hollywood, which means Paramount production? Past tense stuff now.

But Henry Ginsberg had approached Weitman in New York. Paramount officials there wished Ginsberg hadn't; they didn't want the situation at the theatre disturbed. At any rate, Weitman thought it out, decided to remain where he is. Plus a five-year contract.

It's his first with Paramount. It's also one of the very few held by Paramount executives at Eastern headquarters.

■ ■

It's Betty Grable and June Haver for the identical twins in "The Dolly Sisters," musical based on the life and times of Jenny and Rosie of theatrical and international society renown.

Question before the house: If La Grable can become the No. 1 star (source: *Motion Picture Herald-Fame* poll of 1944) by appearing in one picture at a time, what is reasonable expectancy if she shows up twice in the same attraction!

Two chassis for the one admission sound like a buy and the peer of all double features.

■ ■

One of the methods by which "The Friendly Company" stressed its friendliness was trade paper advertising illustrating the double doors leading into the sales department in the Loew Building. Properly weighted in the layout conceived by Si Seadler was a doormat reading, "Welcome," it may be remembered.

Bill Rodgers approved. Actually, he enthused to a degree where he decided to acquire 32 mats just like the one in the ad, or one for each Metro exchange around the nation. The idea never developed.

Rubber shortage.

■ ■

For Warner, and for free:

Still hunting for a man who looks like Will Rogers to play that part?

Take another look at Hoagy Carmichael. He's in your "To Have and Have Not."

■ ■

Paramount had one called "Miss Susie Slagle's" on the stages. Now it's been retitled "The Golden Years."

What a bet, Eddie, the Golden Boy, muffed!

■ ■

If you want the time of day in New York, you dial MEridian 7-1212. If you want it in Hollywood, you dial ULrich 8900. You get the same results, however, by dialing

U-L-C-E-R-S

Placed in nomination as the best story to intercept this traveler's highway in almost two years of Hollywood roamings.

Coming Events

Today—Society of Motion Picture Engineers semi-annual conference, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Today—Industry dinner for Arthur Mayer, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

Through Oct. 20—Annual business conference, Altec Service and Altec Lansing, Hollywood.

Oct. 20-Nov. 5—Industry field meetings on Sixth War Loan Campaign.

Oct. 31—Government to issue stamp honoring films' 50th anniversary.

Nov. 5—Western Motion Picture Radio Awards Association meeting, Hollywood Bowl, Hollywood.

Nov. 11—Motion Picture Associates' Sixth War Loan dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.

Nov. 14—'Night of Stars,' for United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 20-Dec. 16—Sixth War Loan campaign.

Nov. 23-25 — National Variety Club meeting, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Dec. 7—National 'Free Movie Day' at theatres for Sixth War Loan.

Jan. 17—B'nai B'rith annual theatre party, New York.

Silverstone Heads 20th International

Maurice Silverstone, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, has been elected president of the new 20th Century-Fox International Corp., subsidiary of the parent company, which replaced the 20th Century-Fox Import Corp.

Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, was named chairman of the board, and Irving Mass, assistant to Silverstone, is vice-president. MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Sept. 20 forecast the formation of the new company and the new officers.

Mrs. Herbert Berg, 38, Dies After Operation

Funeral services will be held here at 2:30 this afternoon at Riverside Memorial Chapel for Helen Druck Berg, 38, wife of Herbert Berg, trade press representative of United Artists' home office publicity staff. Mrs. Berg died yesterday morning at the Hospital of Joint Diseases, following an operation last Friday. Interment will be at Beth David Cemetery.

Other survivors include a son, Morrey, 10, a daughter, Susan, six, her mother, three sisters and a brother.

Lt. Blumberg Here

Lewis F. Blumberg, son of Nate Blumberg, Universal president, has arrived in New York for a short leave after receiving his commission as a second lieutenant in the Army.

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Records that Ring Throughout America!

MRS. MINIVER
10 WEEKS

RANDOM HARVEST
11 WEEKS

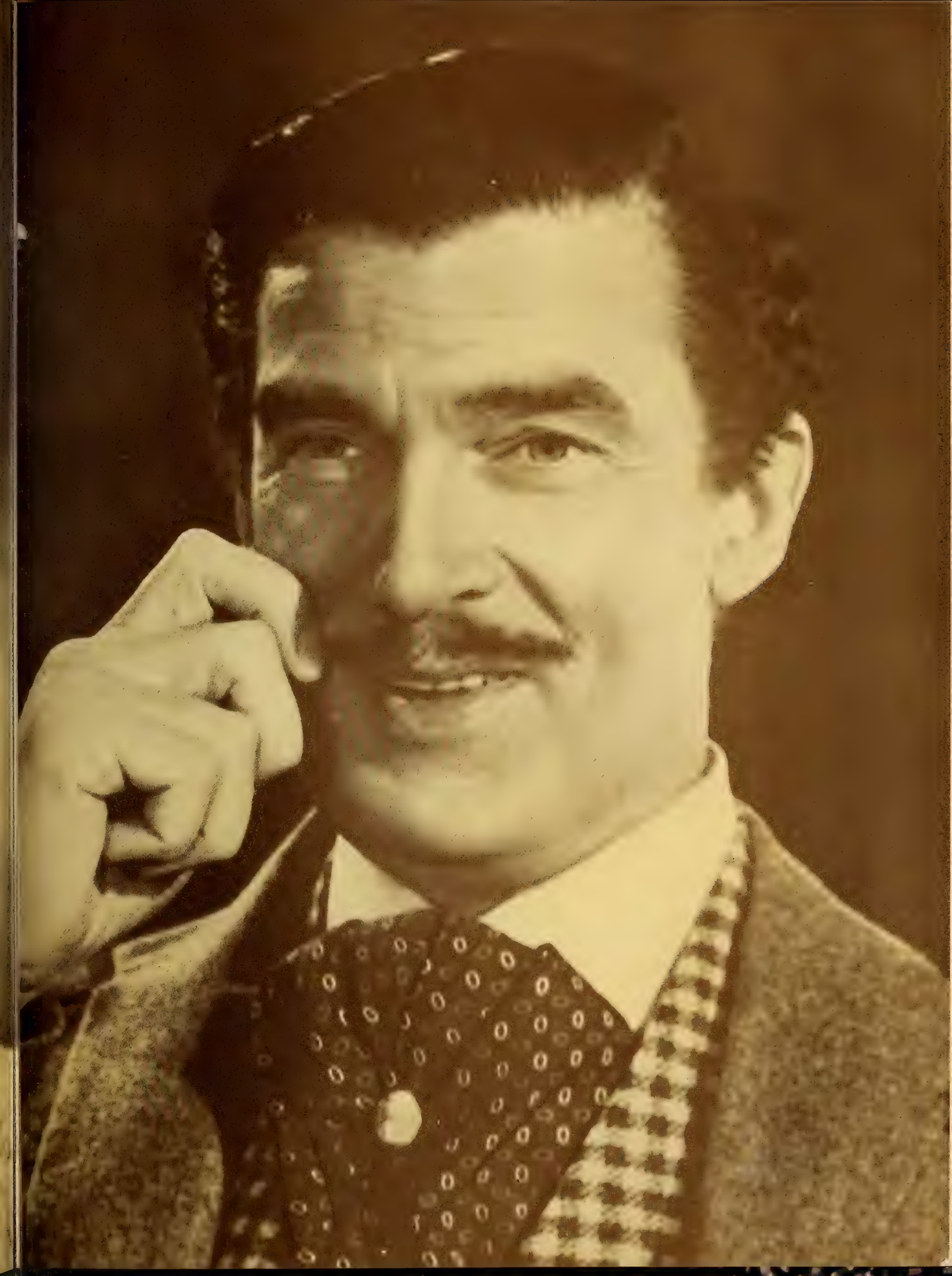
WHITE CLIFFS
7 WEEKS

MADAME CURIE
7 WEEKS

DRAGON SEED
8 WEEKS

and next—

WORLD
PREMIERE
RADIO CITY
MUSIC HALL
M-G-M
Presents
GREER GARSON · WALTER PIDGEON
in
"Mrs. PARKINGTON"



"It's so absorbing
I can't put it down."

GREAT
BOOKS
MAKE
GREAT
PICTURES
AND WHEN YOU PUT
GREAT
STARS
IN THEM

OH BOY!

GREER GARSON • WALTER PIDGEON *in* M-G-M's "Mrs. PARKINGTON"

with EDWARD ARNOLD • AGNES MOOREHEAD • CECIL KELLAWAY

Gladys Cooper • Frances Rafferty • Tom Drake • Peter Lawford • Dan Duryea • Hugh Marlowe • and the Saint Luke's Choristers

Screen Play by Robert Thoeren and Polly James • Based on the Novel by Louis Bromfield • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Directed by TAY GARNETT • Produced by LEON GORDON

Keep Selling Bonds!

Ross Creates Four Field Divisions

H. A. Ross, president of Ross Federal Service, has created four division manager posts. Jules B. Weill, former New York branch manager, is now Eastern division manager in charge of Cincinnati, Cleveland, Buffalo, Boston, Albany, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, and New Haven; Walter I. Brown, former manager in Chicago, is now division manager over Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Des Moines, and Omaha; Walter O. Anderson, former manager of Atlanta, is now Southern division manager over Atlanta, Memphis, Charlotte, Dallas, New Orleans, and Oklahoma City.

Appointment of a division manager for the Western division will be made when Ross reaches the Coast. He will hold meetings during the next two weeks in Chicago, Memphis, and Los Angeles.

Weill will leave Thursday for Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Washington, and Philadelphia.

WB Asks to Rebuild Its British Studio

Max Milder, Warners' managing director in Great Britain, has petitioned the British Board of Trade for permission to immediately rebuild the company's Teddington studios.

Warners produced three films annually at its Teddington studios and from three to four additional films were made there by others. Because of the tight studio situation in England, reconstruction of the studio, which was demolished by a robot bomb, killing several, is said to be favored in London production circles. The British government has taken over most British studios.

'Wilson' in Omaha, Degree for Zanuck

OMAHA, Oct. 17.—Midwest premiere of "Wilson" tomorrow night at the Omaha Theatre will be attended by Darryl F. Zanuck, John Payne, George Jessel, Carole Landis, Shelia Ryan, Roddy McDowall and Mary Anderson. Zanuck will arrive today to visit his native Wahoo, and will receive a degree at Lincoln, from the University of Nebraska.

Arrangements for the premiere are being handled by Omaha manager Rollin Stonebrook, Tri-States district chief Bill Miskell, and by Charles Schlaifer, Arnold Stoltz and Earl Wingart, all of 20th Century-Fox.

Pep Club to Install Brown

The Paramount Pep Club will install new officers at its annual dinner-dance at the Hotel Astor here Friday. J. L. Brown is the new president. Former Paramount employes now in service will be guests. The committee in charge includes Irving Singer, Ray Fisher, Ted Schreiner, Emilie Ullman, Helen Callan and Al Sicignano.

Brouda on NYWF Group

Charles Brouda of the Paramount legal department will serve on the midtown division lawyers' committee of the New York War Fund to contact film industry personnel.

Reviews

"Ministry of Fear"

(Paramount) *Hollywood, Oct. 17*

PSYCHIATRY, spies, killings and hidden purposes blend grippingly and with melodramatic ten-strikes in "Ministry of Fear." Not quite good enough to anchor in the harbor of 'wows', nevertheless here is a show that is a thriller and a chiller of some size.

In hands less capable than Fritz Lang's, "Ministry of Fear" no doubt would have been one of those highly incredulous and far-fetched spy conglomerations. But his direction is so sound and his ability to bring Seton I. Miller's script to life so assured that the values pile up into the results now in evidence.

Based on a novel by Graham Greene, "Ministry of Fear" takes place in war-torn England. Ray Milland, accused of a mercy killing, but innocent, is released from an asylum. At once he is plunged into a strange series of events. Involved are a cake, a blind man, a bombing, a seance in which a man is presumably killed, a manhunt, a consciously confusing set of characters, microfilm of British-mined waters, Scotland Yard, the Ministry of Home Security.

Audiences, of course, will be wise to the fact something illegitimate is under way. Yet the probabilities are that few will fathom the answer until it begins to unfold cleverly, tautly and fascinatingly only a handful of minutes or thereabouts before the curtain drops. Suspicion as to real identity and actual motivation is shuttled from one character, then to another, but the archstone of the Nazi spy ring remains effectively cloaked until the time rolls around for his unmasking. Marjorie Reynolds, Austrian refuge, falls into question, too, but clearance comes finally by way of removing obstacles to her romance with Milland.

The plot and its turnings are aided with considerable effectiveness by production values stunningly contrived for this kind of melodrama. Milland, who has occasional reason to ponder his sanity in the kaleidoscopic onrush of events, does very well in his role; in particular is a scene in the shelter where he talks to Miss Reynolds about his dead wife, a telling scene. While other characters are steeped in mystery wrappings, they remain credible all the way. Percy Waram, as the police inspector, is best in the support, but good performances are on display from Carl Esmond, Hillary Brooke, Dan Duryea, Alan Napier and Erskine Sanford.

Running time, 85 mins. "G". Released in Paramount's second block.*

RED KANN

"One Body Too Many"

(Paramount)

JACK HALEY'S frightened antics as an insurance agent who hopes to earn his gold salesman's pin through a big sale but who finds his prospect dead and himself roped in to guard the corpse, should assure fast sales for this Pine-Thomas production at the mystery comedy bargain counters. Moreover, script writers Winston Miller and Maxwell Shane have fashioned their staple goods with some unusually elaborate and telling touches.

It is the story, once again, about the rich eccentric and the reading of his will, with Bernard Nedell as the slippery lawyer, Bela Lugosi and Blanche Yurka the ominous butler and housekeeper, and Lucien Littlefield, Lyle Talbot, Dorothy Granger and Jessica Newcombe among the quarreling heirs. The special feature here is that the old boy is a bug on stars and wants to be entombed in his observatory rather than buried underground; otherwise, he has ruled, those who were cut off by the will shall profit, and vice versa. So several of the peeved decide upon stealthy interment by night, and the body disappears several times. Once, hilariously, Haley is hiding in the coffin when it is carried out and dumped in the fishpond. But Jean Parker, who loves him, is always on hand to pull a rescue; and, finally, after a few murders amid sliding panels, he rescues her from a killer on the roof.

Frank McDonald, directing, knew when to alternate laughs and chills. Everyone seems to have worked hard, and the effort should click.

Running time, 76 minutes. "G"*. Released in second block.

TOM LOY

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Opens Des Moines Office

DES MOINES, Oct. 17.—Film Classics has moved into the Iowa-Nebraska territory with the opening here of a distribution headquarters. The two states will be serviced by Julian King, formerly with United Artists and for 15 years with M-G-M in Chicago, Denver and Kansas City.

Opens Classics Branch

CINCINNATI, Oct. 17.—Albert Dezel has opened a Film Classics branch in the Film Exchange building here.

Griffith Sells Hotel

GALLUP, N. M., Oct. 17.—H. J. Griffith of Griffith Theatres has sold the $1,000,000 Hotel El Rancho to Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Martin, former owners and operators of resort hotels in Florida and California.

Navy Cites Geo. Werner

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17. — Lieut.-Comm. George Werner, formerly short subjects booker for Warner Theatres, has been commended for establishing audio-visual training libraries in amphibious bases, and for inaugurating and directing recreation programs at Naval bases and Navy forces afloat. Werner has been advised by Admiral Harold R. Stark that the commendations would be forwarded to the Chief of Naval Personnel.

MGM Cincinnati Meeting

CINCINNATI, Oct. 17. — M-G-M home office executives will hold a regional meeting of 35 branch managers, bookers and office managers here Saturday, Sunday and Monday to discuss exchange operations.

Mexico Made 55 This Year; Released 49

Three major Mexican studios, Clasa, Azteca and Stahl, have produced 55 features this year, of which 49 were released, Egon Klein, production supervisor for Calderon Productions, has reported here in an interview to set a deal with an American distributor for joint production in Mexico.

Klein said that, despite the recent six-week strike in production in Mexico, as a result of which ten films were lost, Mexican producers will finish the year with a minimum of 65 pictures, possibly more.

The Calderons are erecting a new studio in Mexico City, he said, but are encountering difficulties in acquiring production equipment and construction materials. They will also build a laboratory.

Where Mexican subsequent-runs, which play double features, formerly played one American feature and one Mexican, the public is now asking for an all-Mexican bill. The American companies have not lost money, however, Klein pointed out, because their lost playing time has been balanced by increased revenue from rising admission prices and new accounts from recently-opened theaters. Sunday, the most lucrative theatre day in Mexico, is being increasingly devoted to Mexican product, with only top American films retaining this favored spot.

Allied to Tabulate Equipment Needs

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—Jack Kirsch, president of Allied of Illinois, reports that the organization's equipment clearing department will be officially opened in January to help the local trade "conserve manpower, vital materials, and to pre-determine post-war production for manufacturers." The Allied group here is the second largest equipment customer in the state, Balaban and Katz being first.

A survey of manufacturers and theatre supply dealers will start in November, to tabulate post-war needs of Allied members for utilization by manufacturers in helping them stabilize employment and production during the reconversion period, Kirsch disclosed.

Meakin Named for New RKO Division

Sol A. Schwartz, general manager of RKO's out-of-town theatres, announced here yesterday, the promotion of Hardie Meakin, manager of Keith's, Washington, to the newly-created position of assistant division manager of the Cincinnati and Dayton territory. To this will be added the operation of the Keith in Washington. Sol Sorkin will be promoted to manage the latter.

MGM to Host Press

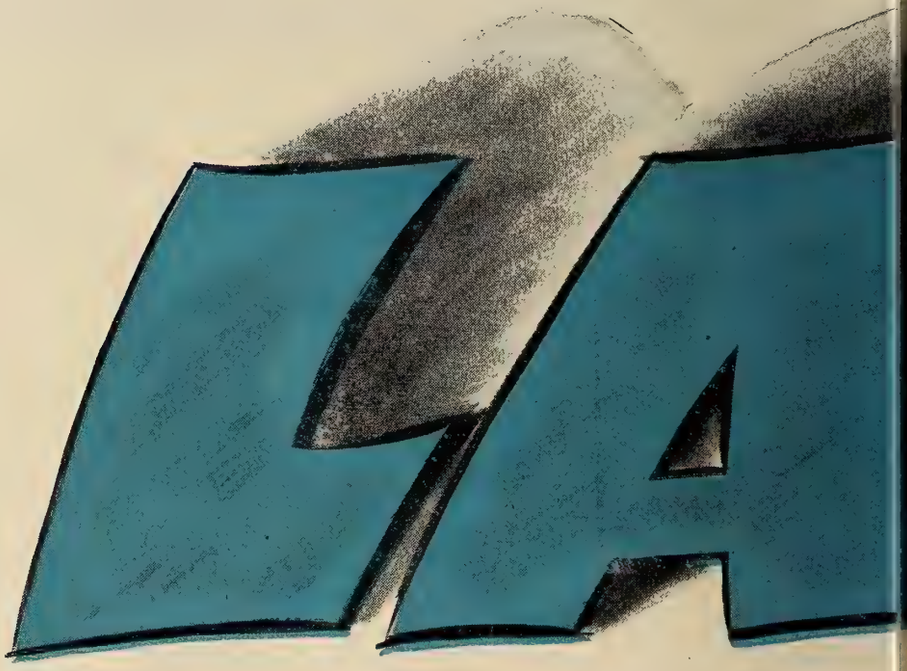
ATLANTA, Oct. 17.—Newspapermen from 10 Georgia newspapers will be guests of M-G-M at the Southern premiere here of "An American Romance" on Oct. 26.

Universal to Honor Paige

Universal will hold a reception tomorrow afternoon at the Hampshire House here in honor of Robert Paige.

THE
THEATRE
THAT
PLAYED
"WILSON"
FOR
8
PRECEDENT-
BREAKING
WEEKS
GIVES
BROADWAY
ANOTHER
GREAT
PRE-
RELEASE
HIT
FROM

20th
CENTURY-FOX
The company that made "WILSON"



Roxy opening day and first week-end sensational!

GENE TIERNEY
DANA ANDREWS
CLIFTON WEBB

Vincent Price · Judith Anderson

Produced and Directed by

OTTO PREMINGER

Screen Play by Jay Dratler, Samuel Hoffenstein and Betty Reinhardt Adapted from the Novel by Vera Caspary

There's MONEY in LAURA!" -M.P. DAILY *"A sure thing at the box-office!"* -Variety

'SYWA' Up $12,000, 'Very Thought' Up $5,500 in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 17. — Business in downtown houses is going strong. "The Very Thought of You" at the Boyd points to $24,500 with an additional $4,700 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle; "Rainbow Island," at the Fox, looks like $23,500, while "Since You Went Away," at the Mastbaum, is packing them in for a $34,000 second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 18-20:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $10,700. (Average: $14,600).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
ARCADIA — (600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $4,000).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $18,000).
"Crime By Night" (WB) 6 days
"The Very Thought of You" (WB) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (45c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Cab Calloway's band, Bill Bailey, Holmes and Jean, Dotty Saulters, Laviella and her Harp, The Cabalettes, J. C. Heard, Jonah Jones, Tyree Glenn, Milton Hinton. Gross: $28,300. (Average: $27,600).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
FOX — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $20,500).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $6,600).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,800).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $22,500).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $20,000).
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
STANTON — (1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $9,400).

New Aniline Move to Divest Foreign Ties

The General Aniline and Film Corp., 98 per cent of whose voting shares have been vested in the Alien Property Custodian since Feb. 16, 1942, took yesterday another step toward elimination of foreign connections when the directors voted dividends, part of which stockholders may take in shares of I. G. Chemie of Basle, Switzerland.

The Company declared dividends of $2 a share on the class A common stock, the first to be declared since $3 was paid in 1941, and of 20 cents a share on the class B common stock, the first since 30 cents a share was paid in 1941. Both distributions are payable to stockholders of record of Oct. 26.

National Executives Will Confer Here

Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, is scheduled to arrive here next Monday from the Coast for conferences at the 20th Century-Fox home office with Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, and Dan Michalove, National Theatres vice-president.

National Theatres' executives Harold Fitzgerald, Elmer Rhoden, Frank (Rick) Ricketson, and Frank Newman will also come East.

Worth It

Milton, Pa., Oct. 17.—The Pappas brothers, operating the Legionaire, announced that "with the liberation of Greece, every man and woman in the Armed Forces who wishes to attend the house may do so as guests of the management." When Germany surrenders, the courtesy will be extended to over a month's time, date of the offer pending on the end of the Nazi resistance. The Pappas brothers are natives of Greece.

'Arsenic' Up 100% At Two in Denver

DENVER, Oct. 17.—"Arsenic and Old Lace" on a dual at the Denver and Esquire theatres clicked at both houses, grosses totaling 100 per cent above average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 16-19:

"Janie" (WB)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gros: $7,000. (Average: $5,600).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
BROADWAY — (1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gros: $6,825. (Average: $3,900).
"I I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $4,500).
"Sweet and Low Down" (20th-Fox)
"Strangers in the Night" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $10,625. (Average: $9,300).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
RIALTO — (900) (35c - 40c - 55c - special prices) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000).

'SYWA' Strong in 3rd Grossing $18,000

BUFFALO, Oct. 17.—"Since You Went Away" looked very strong as its third week began at the Great Lakes and probably will hit $18,000.

Estimated reecipts for the week ending Oct. 21:

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $17,400).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,200).
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
"Two-Man Submarine" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $8,700. (Average: $9,700).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (76c-$1.10) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $1,500. (Average at 40c-60c: $12,200).
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
"Weird Woman" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gros: $14,800. (Average: $12,400).

Sgt. Hall Killed

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—Sgt. Stephen L. Hall, 29, Army motion picture photographer who won the Legion of Merit and a commendation by President Roosevelt for his films of the Casablanca conference, was killed Sept. 22 in a vehicle accident in France, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Dahlin, have been notified here. Before he entered the Army, in 1942, Sgt. Hall was employed by Technicolor in Hollywood.

Industry Waits New Move by Argentina

Film company foreign distribution heads are watching with interest for possible action by the Argentine government in retaliation against the U. S. Government's freezing of Argentine gold stocks in this country and the reported consideration of the application of much stronger economic pressure against that country. The most recent ban prevents American ships from picking up cargoes at Argentine ports on northbound runs.

Foreign distribution heads do not anticipate any immediate confiscatory retaliation against the American film industry by the Argentine government in view of the dependence of Argentine exhibition upon American films. They point out that the effect of the latest move by the U. S. Government merely prevents Argentina from taking gold out of the United States and has no effect upon Argentine credits in the U. S. with which they can pay for American products, including films. However, retaliation against the U. S. industry might be attempted by tightening export and import licenses rather than a possible freezing of American film funds.

100 Films to S. A. Monthly by Air

About 100 features and more than 400 news and miscellaneous reels are shipped to South American countries by Air Express every month. Diplomatic officials also receive about 150 newsreels every month by air express, and the Office of War Information and the Office of the Coordinator for Inter-American Affairs use this method to speed films to Central and South America.

M-G-M, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia, Universal, Warners and United Artists are reported to be regular shippers to that territory by air, with the film being flown, in most cases, to offices in Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Santiago and Quito.

A Story About the Farmer's Daughter

DES MOINES, Oct. 17.—"Going My Way" has been exceptionally well received among farmers in the Tall Corn state. After seeeing the picture in Atlantic (pop., 5,802), one weather-beaten farmer thrust currency into the cashier's hands and instructed her to let the next five patrons in free.

Two Sac City farmers' wives insisted they be given special rates for all showings of the picture, since, they said, they intended to be at every performance.

Senate to Report On Petrillo Ban

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—The Senate Inter-State Commerce sub-committee which two years ago investigated the ban on recording imposed by James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, will make a report "within the next month or two," it was promised today by Chairman D. Worth Clark of Idaho.

The Department of Justice is investigating to see if any present laws can be applied to force Petrillo to abandon his ban.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 17

THE Western Motion Picture Awards Association has distributed 250,000 ballots to theatres in Southern California showing Western films, for its poll. Audiences are asked to select their favorite Western players, directors and horses. When the balloting has been completed, awards will be made at a special program in the Hollywood Bowl.

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J. J. Milstein has resigned as business manager for Sam Wood, who will join Jack H. Skirball to direct "Guest Wife." Columbia has temporarily suspended "Jubal Troop," which Wood was scheduled to direct.

•

Paramount producer Hal B. Wallis has signed Lizabeth Scott, formerly with the cast of the stage play, "Skin of Our Teeth," to a term contract. The producer now has three players under contract. The others are Ann Richards and Derek Cooper, both of whom will be seen in "Love Letters," Wallis' first for Paramount . . . Harry Sherman is trying to persuade Gene Fowler to write a novel about Goldfield, Utah, a ghost town with a colorful history and the scene of the Nelson-Gans prizefight. If Fowler is persuaded, Sherman intends filming the story.

•

Anne Jeffreys has been borrowed from RKO to play the role of 'the woman in red' in "John Dillinger," which the King Brothers are producing at Monogram . . . Eric Sinclair and Ralph Hoops have been signed by Columbia for top roles in "Our Wandering Daughters" . . . William Wilder's next production will be "The Lesser Man." Anne Wigton has been assigned to write the screenplay . . . Una O'Connor has been signed for "Of Human Bondage," now before cameras at Warners.

•

George Pal has created two new characters, "Punchy" and "Judy," who will be featured in his next 'Puppetoon,' "Hatfull of Dreams"

French Production To Be Increased

The DeGaulle government of France will take immediate steps toward increasing French film production, it has been stated here by Bernard Gaston-Cherau of the French Press and Information Bureau. Gaston-Cherau declared that as far as motion pictures are concerned private ownership, with a hands-off policy by the State, will follow as soon as conditions permit. "The French film industry must and will be free," he stated.

The spokesman also said that Simon Schiffrin, head of the New York branch of the OFIC will return from France this month, where, among other assignments, he filmed the invasion. Schiffrin will meet with American producers on his return under instructions from De Gaulle, and will tell the American film industry what it can expect from distribution possibilities in France.

FCC Hears of Video Headaches Ahead

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—Testimony on postwar television was cut off abruptly today by the Federal Communications Commission and postponed until later in the month in order that hearings on allocations for various types of radio service might be brought up to schedule. The television session was recessed without hearing Paul Raibourn speak for Balaban and Katz, Chicago, and with more than a dozen other witnesses still to be heard, but the commission gave assurance that all would be given an opportunity to present their views before the hearings ended.

Technical as well as financial problems still confront television, testimony at today's hearings disclosed. Postwar television pictures must be both larger and more detailed, it was declared by Peter C. Goldmark, chief television engineer of CBS, who supported recommendations that television channels be shifted to the ultra-high frequencies, where finer definition will be possible. Goldmark proposed to widen the video band to two and one-half times its present width, permitting a 735-line black-and-white system which, he said, would be almost identical in definition to the average professional 16-mm film.

The commission tomorrow will hear testimony on special services, including those needed by Hollywood film studios. Four witnesses have been scheduled to discuss the latter subject, including E. H. Hanson of 20th Century-Fox, Paul Raibourn, John L. Logan of the Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Paul J. Larsen of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

McElwaine Heads PRC Advertising

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 17.—Don McElwaine, with M-G-M's studio publicity department for 13 years until he resigned two weeks ago, will become director of advertising-publicity for PRC on Nov. 1. Martin Mooney, who presently holds the job, will swing completely into PRC production.

McElwaine was an exploiteer with First National, advertising manager of Fox, a producer with Buck Jones Corp., and publicity director of Pathe Studios.

Extra Players Plan to Set Up Own Awards

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 17.—Extra players will set up their own mechanism voting awards of merit paralleling Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, according to plan of the Screen Players Union, which is contesting the Screen Actors Guild control of extras. Voting privileges were withdrawn from extras by the Academy in the recent revising of its rules.

WB to Honor LeRoy

Warner Bros. will hold a reception in honor of Mervyn LeRoy, who is rejoining the company shortly with his Arrowhead Productions, on Friday in the Sherry-Netherlands Hotel. Jack L. Warner, Warners' executive producer, will be host.

Single Film Sales Seen Inevitable Under Decree

(Continued from page 1)

for violation of the decree. We cannot risk such a hazard, for in each instance it would be the judgment of the court alone which would decide whether we had violated the decree or not.

"If this amendment comes to pass, (and Paramount will fight it all the way) it will prove to be as great a disservice to exhibitors as to producers. No exhibitor wants to buy one film at a time, for he cannot secure sufficient product by so doing. It will increase the cost of selling to a prohibitive degree and also will eliminate all but 'A' productions. Cost of production will mount sky high, for no producer would be able to take a chance of a failure. Many fewer pictures will be made, and many of the smaller houses, unable to pay top prices, will be forced out of business. It would upset the industry to a chaotic extent."

20th-Fox Viewpoint

Twentieth Century-Fox takes the same viewpoint. Its spokesman declared that, "If the amendment is adopted I cannot see how we can survive. Single picture selling would upset us to an extent in production and distribution that would imperil our operations. It would be beyond our control. If the Government wants to abolish the motion picture, single picture selling would be the way to do it."

RKO, through its home office, declared, "We agree with the rest of the companies that such a move would be most costly. The new amendments would mean that if we conditioned the securing of even such productions as 'Woman in the Window' on the taking of 'Casanova Brown,' we would be violating the decree. It means that all but the best of 'A' productions would be finished. We will fight any attempt to force us to accept this modification of the consent decree."

Warner Brothers did not desire officially to enter the controversy. Unofficially, Warner attorneys said that the new amendments, if made law, would force single picture selling and that the company would fight this proposal to the end.

Loew's, through its spokesman, declared that, "The company prefers to stay out of such controversies and Loew's has not as yet set a policy as to how it would sell its pictures in the case of such an eventuality." Unofficially, company executives stated that Loew's would be forced to sell single pictures under the amendment and how this could be done under the present industry set up, they dared not even anticipate. I suppose we would get by," one official commented. "We always do, but it will wreck the whole structure of the industry and only the very strong will survive. It would be the worst catastrophe in the 50 years of motion pictures."

Sounding the keynote for the little three, Columbia, through its attorney, Louis Frohlich, who desired to be quoted, declared that there was no question but that legally, after the amendments had been accepted by the companies or forced on them by the court, they would have to sell singly. "However," said Frohlich, "Columbia will fight to the finish. We are ready and eager to try this case at any time. We won't back down. The Government cannot and won't be allowed to wreck our company and industry."

Universal's Position

Universal declared it had no official statement to make. Unofficially, it was said the company would have to sell singly if the provision was extended by law to the whole industry, and could not survive such a mandate.

Last of the major companies, United Artists, took a different view. Here, the attorneys for the company declared that single selling fits in with its plans and "United Artists would prefer to sell all its product on a picture to picture basis and on merit alone." The United Artists attorney hastened to point out that the peculiar set up of his company allowed it to sell on that basis, but said that he would hate to think of the havoc such a policy would play with the rest of the industry.

Republic declared through its executives: "Republic will follow other companies in opposing the newly proposed Government amendments which apparently seek to force single picture selling." It was pointed out that Republic's program is sold in groups and that "pictures cannot be sold on any other basis."

Widely expressed was the belief that the exhibitor will be as hard hit as distributors, and that, if the Government persists in pressing its proposed amendments, the majority of exhibitors will join in the case as *amici curiae* to oppose the proposed change.

Goldstein Heads Vanguard Publicity

Neil Agnew, vice-president of Selznick Enterprises and Vanguard Films, yesterday reported the appointment of Jack Goldstein as Eastern Director of publicity and exploitation. Goldstein recently resigned as publicity manager of 20th Century-Fox here.

Goldstein started in 1919 with Netoco and subsequently was with Paramount-Publix, Boston, then served as press representative of Shubert Theatres in New England, publicity chief for RKO Theatres in Brooklyn, Long Island and Queens, New England advertising-publicity director for RKO Theatres; director of exploitation for United Artists, and then 20th Century-Fox in New York.

Temple Says Films Shape World Youth

"Motion pictures are the biggest single factor in shaping young minds," Shirley Temple told a gathering at the second session of the New York *Herald Tribune* Forum at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here yesterday.

"The love of fun and freedom must be given to the children of the world and American films can do it," she stated.

Mayer Farewell Tonight

A farewell dinner by the industry here to Arthur L. Mayer will be given tonight at the Waldorf-Astoria. Mayer will leave soon to take up duties as deputy commissioner of the Red Cross in the Pacific Islands area.

Hearing on Cooper Motion Off to Oct. 24

Federal Judge Simon H. Rifkind yesterday postponed until Oct. 24 arguments on a motion by Rialto, Inc., J. H. Cooper Enterprises and Interstate Theatres, all of Colorado, for an order confirming the report of Special Master Francis W. H. Adams in which he recommended dismissal of a suit by Paramount for an adjudication of its claimed right to an interest in stock of the three corporations. The court also postponed until Oct. 24 arguments on Paramount's motion for an order rejecting the report of the Special Master.

Adams had ruled that the three theatre corporations are not within the jurisdiction of the Federal Court in New York, and recommended dismissal as to them, but he did not rule on the action with respect to Joseph H. Cooper, president of the three Colorado companies.

Paramount claims a 50 per cent interest in the Class B stocks of Rialto and Cooper Enterprises, and a 25 per cent interest in the Class A stock of Interstate. Cooper, in the complaint, is alleged to have breached a 1933 agreement under which he was induced to go to Colorado to reorganize certain theatre properties and to acquire other theatre properties on a 50-50 basis. Instead, he acquired them under his own name, Paramount charges.

RKO Managers Pact Hits Another Snag

The question of when retroactive wage increases should commence in contract negotiations between RKO and Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistant managers in 41 RKO theatres in Metropolitan New York and Westchester, caused a snag in these negotiations at a meeting here yesterday.

RKO officials promised to consider the union's request to set a date for such retroactivity and to advise the union of its decision by tomorrow. Representatives of the union indicated after the meeting that if the results are not favorable they will consider negotiations broken off again and seek intervention by the New York State Board of Mediation.

Hopper and Schenck Conferences Due

(Continued from page 1)

report but some credence is given in home office quarters to the report published earlier on the West Coast that consideration is being given to the assignment of some part of Mayer's administrative duties to E. J. Mannix and Sam Katz during Mayer's absence from the studio as a result of injuries suffered when he was thrown from a horse last month. There is no definite indication at this time when Mayer will be able to resume work, it was stated.

Hopper is en route to New York from the Coast now.

'Creek' Tradeshows

"Frenchman's Creek" will be previewed at the Normandie Theatre here Oct. 23 for exhibitors. Similar previews will be held in all exchange centers on the same day.

Obstacles Seen In Reentering European Mart

(Continued from page 1)

the industry must face when it reenters the European market, according to Golden, are: restrictions on the removal to the U. S. of accrued revenues; legislative barriers, including quotas and import restrictions; intensified censorship designed by the countries to build up their own film industries; and a certain desire on the part of foreign nationals to see their own pictures rather than dubbed or superimposed sub-titled American films.

It is also possible, it is understood, that legislative restrictions might take the form of laws requiring American film companies to dub their films in the country in which they plan to release them, as well as restrictions on the number of films which may be imported for commercial exhibition.

Many foreign distribution heads of film companies here privately admit that the likelihood of their removing accrued revenues from European and other companies anywhere in the near future is slim since most countries are bankrupt, economically and socially.

African Problem

Although American film companies have resumed distribution in North Africa, they are still unable to remove any revenue because of foreign exchange restrictions.

There are indications that Italian authorities are now trying to build up American dollar balances through purchases of goods by American Armed Forces in Italy, but nothing has been said about transmitting to American film companies the revenues which have accrued to them and are being held in escrow by the Office of War Information and the Army's Psychological Warfare Branch, having jurisdiction over the showing of American films to civilians in Italy.

J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal and a director of the National Association of Manufacturers recently pointed out that the American industry, and other industries, can expect to receive revenues from countries of Europe as soon as "responsible" governments are reestablished.

RKO Operates in Belgium, Rumania

(Continued from page 1)

them from the Nazis at the Bucharest exchange, it was disclosed. With the Nazi withdrawal, according to Cazazis, "enormous crowds" have been attending every exhibition of Hollywood-made films which are now being shown in practically all Bucharest theatres.

Cabled reports from Leon Wynbergen, attached to RKO's London office since the closing of the RKO exchange in Brussels due to the German invasion of Belgium, disclose that distribution operations have again been resumed on RKO productions under a native assistant who remained behind when Wynbergen was forced to leave the country. Wynbergen will again resume at the Brussels exchange upon clearance of transportation facilities to Brussels from London.

New Owner for This House Every Week

Philadelphia, Oct. 17.—David Shapiro, independent circuit operator, became the third owner within three weeks of the Boulevard Theatre, at suburban Brookline. Abe Altman first took over the house, once operated by Joe Hebrew. It then came under the operation of Harold Lieberman, with Shapiro taking over last week. Rube Shapiro is operating the house for the Shapiro interests.

Studio Fan Photos Carry Bond Appeals

(Continued from page 1)

the theatre men, the message will say, in part: "All in Hollywood are proud of the part being played in every war loan drive by a great group of unsung patriots . . . the nation's 16,000 exhibitors."

Stage-Radio Show Will Launch Drive

A radio-stage show featuring top stars of all entertainment will launch the Sixth War Loan on Nov. 20 in Madison Square Garden here, an announcement from Max Cohen, chairman of the industry's special events committee revealed here yesterday.

Through the cooperation of the Hollywood Victory Committee a group of film stars will be available for the event, with the remainder of the talent for the show to be drawn from the stage, night clubs and networks in New York. Malcolm Kingsberg as stage manager and Ted Lloyd as radio director, have been appointed for the show.

Tom Baily Starts in Treasury Liaison Post

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—Tom Baily, industry liaison between the executive committee of the Sixth War Loan and the Treasury Department, has reported in to his office here, where he will remain as assistant to Ted Gamble, national War Finance Director, until the end of campaign.

Brown Chairman of Para. Sixth Drive

E. A. Brown, general cashier for Paramount at the home office, has been named chairman of the company's participation in the Sixth War Loan drive in the Metropolitan area. The appointment was made by Barney Balaban, president.

Brown will appoint a committee to assist in promoting extra bond purchases during the new drive. His territory will include the New York exchange, the Paramount News laboratory, the Long Island laboratory and the home office.

Coplan Ratified as UA British Manager

David Coplan will shortly return to London as United Artists British managing director, his appointment having been formalized at a UA board of directors meeting here this week. Prior to his appointment as acting British manager, Coplan was UA's Canadian manager.

Hyndman Elected SMPE President

(Continued from page 1)

professional and color cinematography. The SMPE journal award for the outstanding paper published in the journal was given to John I. Crabtree, George T. Eaton and Lowell E. Muehler, all of Eastman, for their paper entitled "The Removal of Hypo and Silver Salts from Photographic Materials as Affected by the Composition of the Processing Solutions."

Elevated to fellowships in the SMPE and given citations last night were Earl L. Arnold, Eastman; F. T. Bowditch, National Carbon; Dr. Peter C. Goldmark, Columbia Broadcasting; Barton Kreuzer, RCA; C. J. Staud, Eastman; James R. Wilkenson, Paramount, and Dr. W. Wallace Lozier, National Carbon.

Hollis W. Moyse and Reeve C. Strock were reelected to the SMPE's board of governors and John I. Crabtree, Peter Mole and C. R. Daily were added to the board to fill vacancies, to take office Jan. 1.

Papers at yesterday morning's session dealt with film processing while yesterday afternoon's sessions were devoted to developments in photography and sound recording.

Today's sessions will highlight developments in Army Air Force training films; production of foreign version films and special uses of high speed photography. U. S. Navy officers will also report on advances in production, filming and processing of training and combat films.

Mobilization Probes Legislative Group

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 17.—A special committee representing the Hollywood Writers Mobilization has outlined a two-point program to investigate State Senator Jack Tenney's legislative fact-finding committee which last week conducted hearings probing the inception and ideological aspects of the Writers Congress last year.

Points, listed by Mobilization chairman Emmet Lavery, are, first: call upon the Bar Association to "investigate the abuse by Tenney of the power of inquiry-by-committee" and, second: "to appraise all facts causing or constituting interference with the national defense program in California." A statement issued by the committee said it "charged Tenny with obstructing the war effort." The latter angle has developed because HWM is an organization devoted to the preparation of radio and film scripts geared to further the war effort.

Kaplan to Coast In Inter-change

Boris Kaplan, head of the Eastern talent staff of Paramount, will leave for the Coast Oct. 20, to remain for two weeks for conferences with Henry Ginsberg, general manager in charge of production, William Meiklejohn, head of the studio talent and casting departments, and other studio executives.

Kaplan's studio visit is in accord with a plan of inter-changing company production executives between New York and the studio.

IATSE Out to Organize 5000 Theatre Help

(Continued from page 1)

newal between the IATSE and the League of New York Legitimate Theatres, which resulted in substantial gains for some 300 ushers, doormen and matrons in New York playhouses. Under that new contract, between IATSE Local B-183 and 'legitimate' theatres, ushers will receive a minimum of $15 a week for eight performances, or 30 hours of work per week, while the minimum for doormen was raised from $22.50 to $27.

Ushers, doormen, cashiers and matrons in New York's film theatres are being organized by 'IA' Local B-171, of which Richard Scott is business agent. This local has long claimed jurisdiction over the 'out-front' workers and has repeatedly challenged the jurisdiction of other AFL locals and independent unions, including the newly-formed RKO Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, over these workers. The IATSE represents projectionists in most of the 600 theatres involved, and also has jurisdiction over the electricians and stagehands.

Unionization of these workers has been deferred until now, it is understood, because of the "astronomical turnover" in this type of help, which made it unfeasible to organize them.

Present plans of the 'IA' do not include any attempt to organize managers or assistant managers.

Schine Trial Off Till Next Monday

(Continued from page 1)

another delay in the trial on Nov. 6 and 7, when the Crescent case appeals are scheduled to be heard by the Supreme Court in Washington, although election day, Nov. 7, is not a holiday in Washington.

Hubert P. Wallace, Auburn exhibitor, was followed to the stand today by three more Government witnesses. Pete Vournakis, operator of two houses in Watertown; Irving Cohen of Rochester, who operates houses in Corning and Salamacca, and William Tishkoff of Rochester, operator of the Webster in that city. They testified as to difficulties they encountered in obtaining product. There has been no hint yet as to whom Schine will call as defense witnesses, but it is expected the bulk of them will [illegible] sons prominent in distribution [illegible]re by French [illegible] Gas- [illegible] as [illegible]ate [illegible]y

Jack Kirsch Hea[illegible] Chicago Variety

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—Jack Kirs[illegible] president of Allied of Illinois, ha[illegible] been named chief barker of loc[illegible] Variety, succeeding Johnny Jones.

Others elected include: Jack Ros[illegible] president of Indiana-Illinois Theatre[illegible] first assistant chief barker; Eddi[illegible] Brunell, operator of the Metropo[illegible] Theatre, second chief barker; Joh[illegible] Balaban, head of B. and K. Theatre[illegible] dough guy, and Irving Mack, Filmac[illegible] Trailers, property master. Canva[illegible] men are: Hal Halperin, Tom Flan[illegible]nery, William Baker, Ben Eisenber[illegible] Jack Rose and Lou Harrison.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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DO NOT REMOVE

Battle Starts Against Tax Discrimination

Meanwhile National Tax Council Plan Dropped

First signs of a possible wave of proposed discriminatory industry taxation and other legislation in state legislatures this Winter, are at hand, accompanied by warnings of industry legislative representatives and exhibitor leaders, here and in the field, of the necessity of organizing early to combat actual and anticipated adverse measures.

Ray Branch, president of Allied of Michigan, has issued a call to all industry members in that state to unite in combating adverse legislation; Kentucky exhibitors have organized to beat down discriminatory taxa-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Setting Details Of New Building Code

The New York State Labor Department's advisory committee which has been holding meetings to promulgate a revised building code for theatres and other places of public assembly in all parts of the state except New York City, has started formulating actual provisions for a code after deferring the making of final recommendations on the statutory background of the proposed revisions.

The next meeting of the advisory committee will be held Oct. 27. Industry representatives on the committee who have been attending the meetings include: Henry Anderson, Paramount; Martin J. Tracey, Century Circuit; Theodore Junge, alternate for Harry Moskowitz of Loew's, and Glen H. Humphrey of projectionists' Local 337.

500 Attend Tribute To Arthur Mayer

Five hundred gathered last night at the Waldorf-Astoria to pay tribute to Arthur L. Mayer on the eve of his departure for Hawaii as deputy commissioner of the Red Cross for the Pacific Islands area. Tributes were expressed by toastmaster Harry Brandt, industry leaders, Mayer's associates at the War Activities Committee, and Howard C. Petersen, assistant to Under-Secretary of War

(*Continued on page 3*)

Theatres Asked to Cut Yule Lighting

Washington, Oct. 18.—The Office of War Utilities today asked exhibitors, merchants, civic organizations and others to again dispense with out-door decorative lighting this Christmas because of the fuel situation, which this winter will be fully as critical as it was last year and, in the case of coal, may be more so in some areas.

Challenge 100 New Theatres

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Disclosure by the War Production Board that it has approved the construction of 100 theatres during the past year today brought a strong protest from Senator Monrad C. Wallgren of Washington.

The report showed that since Jan., 1942, the WPB aprpoved $60,000,000 worth of construction of theatres, bowling alleys and other recreational facilities.

Asking for definite information regarding the number of theatres and other amusement places authorized by WPB, Wallgren has written WPB director J. A. Krug: "It has been brought to my attention that the WPB is authorizing the construction of movie theatres and other places of amusement, but that priorities for ma-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Boom Ahead: Jack Warner

Present high level of motion picture attendance not only can be maintained but even exceeded after the war so long as pictures maintain, or surpass, the quality level of the past few years, declared Col. Jack L. Warner, vice-president and executive producer of Warner Bros. Pictures, in a talk to home office executives yesterday following his arrival from the Coast.

Jack L. Warner

The conference, first of a series, was attended by Harry M.

(*Continued on page 3*)

SPG Asks U.S. to Force Negotiations

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 18.—The Screen Publicists Guild today appealed to the U. S. Department of Labor Conciliation in San Francisco for assignment of a commissioner to compel the producers to reopen negotiations for modification of their contract. A guild spokesman said the step was taken after the producers reversed their position of willingness manifested prior to the recent walkout of set decorators.

Canada Alerts Special Crews for Emergencies

TORONTO, Oct. 18.—Canadian film companies and circuits have completed plans to meet 'V-E'-Day problems. Outstanding in the preparations for the Toronto district has been the establishment of an emergency squad at the head office of Famous Players Canadian Corp. to take care of any developments where staff reinforcements may be necessary. 'Minutemen'—and women—at the home office have been trained in theatre practice and are ready to augment the personnel of a theatre or replace any employe.

The emergency squad is available 24 hours a day and can be reached by phone in a system that is similar to the organization which was trained for Air Raid Precaution work in the earlier part of the war. If any house

(*Continued on page 3*)

Film Bond Chiefs On Treasury Staff

Film company war bond chairmen for the Sixth War Loan drive will be officially attached to the Treasury's War Finance Committee, here, to forge a closer link between company bond leaders and the Treasury, and, in turn to stimulate a greater sale of extra bonds and also expedite the distribution of supplies and material from the Treasury to the companies during the drive. Leaders in other fields will be similarly designated.

Arthur's Fight On Arbitration Goes to Court

Formal Filing Asks to Intervene in Decree

The first tangible public move on the part of Harry Arthur and five subsidiary corporations controlling 27 neighborhood and four first run theatres in St. Louis, to intervene in the consent decree action of the Department of Justice against the five distributor-producer defendants, came in Federal court here yesterday, when a note of issue, asking leave to intervene in the action was filed. Application is set for hearing on Nov. 3, at which time the court will refer the plea to Judge Henry W. Goddard for decision. It is understood that the Department of Justice will oppose the application. Minton and Murphy are the New York attorneys of record, with Russell Hardy of Washington, of counsel for the plaintiffs.

The complaint is against the Amer-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Equipment Survey By State Dept.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—A survey of world markets for American projectors and equipments, comparable to that of motion picture markets recently completed, will be initiated in the near future by Nathan D. Golden, chief of the motion picture unit of the Department of Commerce.

The projector canvass will be made through consular officers of the Department of State, who will gather information on the number and condition of machines in their territories, and compile other data on the basis of which American manufacturers and

(*Continued on page 3*)

Three War Heroes To Tour on Bonds

Three war heroes representing the Treasury Department will accompany members of the Sixth War Loan national industry committee on their tours of 19 cities to organize the industry for the forthcoming drive, Harry Brandt, national chairman, announced here yesterday.

The Treasury representatives will address industry gatherings, which will be launched with an exhibitor-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Personal Mention

CHARLES SCHWARTZ of the Schwartz and Frohlich law firm has returned from a two weeks' visit on the Coast.

•

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, left the Coast for New York yesterday after having been delayed since Monday. MURRAY SILVERSTONE, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, will leave the Coast for New York tomorrow.

•

E. H. COLLINS, executive assistant to W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, has arrived in Omaha, accompanied by M. A. LEVY, Minneapolis district manager.

•

SIDNEY KULICK, PRC Eastern division sales manager, will return to New York today after a tour of exchanges in New England and the Midwest.

•

ARLINE FOSTER, daughter of HARRY FOSTER, manager of the Park City Theatre, Bridgeport, Conn., has joined the WAVES and is stationed at New Orleans.

•

A. C. BROMBERG, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, has returned to Atlanta from a business visit to Memphis.

•

I. J. HOFFMAN, zone manager for Warner Theatres in Connecticut, will return to his New Haven headquarters from New York today.

•

FRED NASH, HARRY PAUL and NASH WEIL of the Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co. have returned to Atlanta from Chicago.

•

SAM BURGER, M-G-M foreign representative, is en route to Havana starting a four-month tour of Latin America.

•

LEON GORDON, M-G-M producer, and MRS. GORDON are in New York from the Coast.

•

WALT DISNEY will return to Hollywood from New York tomorrow.

Gillham on Coast On 'Creek' Campaign

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 18.—"Frenchman's Creek" will be pre-released in a limited number of metropolitan centers during November and will be given a general release around Christmas in key cities.

Plans for a national campaign are now being set at the Paramount studios here by R. M. Gillham, Paramount's advertising-publicity director.

Wettstein 'Alive, Well'

Ernest Wettstein, former Monogram representative in Paris, has cabled Norton V. Ritchey, head of foreign distribution for that company here, that he is "alive and well" in Paris.

Films' Peace Role Cited Before SMPE

China's "Security Plan" offered to the Allies Durbarton Oaks Conference, stresses the motion picture as "a vital medium for promotion of international friendship and understanding," Dr. T. Y. Lo, deputy director of the Chinese military pictorial service at Chungking and a member of the Chinese Supply Commission in Washington, told the Society of Motion Pictures Engineers at yesterday's closing session of the 56th semi-annual conference, at the Hotel Pennsylvania here. Dr. Lo warned, however, that use of films for this purpose may fail, and misunderstandings may even be increased unless adequate attention is given to problems of language interpretation in producing foreign version films.

Papers at yesterday's concluding sessions included one on a new high speed motion picture camera which takes 8,000 pictures per second; a discussion of recent advances in Army Air Corps training films; and a paper on the Art Reeves reflex motion picture camera. Another described methods of determining the accelerations of driven elements of motion picture equipment in order to minimize wear on the surfaces of moving parts and eliminate as far as possible the tendency of the mechanism to be noisy. Members of the U. S. Navy's training film division presented papers at the final session yesterday afternoon.

Schenck Holds Final Dimes' Report Meet

Final reports on the industry's record $4,667,000 collection in the 1944 March of Dimes drive were made at a luncheon here yesterday, when Nicholas M. Schenck, national drive chairman, was host to his executive committee.

Those present included E. L. Alperson, Barney Balaban, Harry Brandt, Tom Connors, Ernest Emerling, Gus Eyssell, Leonard Goldenson, Charles C. Moskowitz, and Walter Vincent. Unable to attend were Harry Kalmine, Spyros Skouras and Richard Walsh.

Two More Vanguard Films Ready: Agnew

Two more Vanguard Films are ready for release by United Artists to add to the current "Since You Went Away," Neil Agnew, Vanguard vice-president in charge of sales, reported here yesterday.

Prints of the Shirley Temple-Ginger Rogers vehicle, "I'll Be Seeing You," and the Alfred Hitchcock film, "Spellbound," formerly titled "The House of Dr. Edwardes," are now in New York.

Services for Mrs. Berg

Many from the industry here attended funeral services at Riverside Memorial Chapel yesterday afternoon for Helen Druck Berg, wife of Herbert Berg, United Artists trade press representative. Interment was in Beth David Cemetery.

Para. Negotiates Loan of $6,000,000

Paramount has obtained a loan of $6,000,000 through three New York banks. The new funds were obtained by reinstating $6,000,000 of the original loan of $15,000,000 made last July to retire the company's 3¼ per cent debentures and which since had been reduced to about $8,000,000. Paramount has advanced to its subsidiary, Paramount Broadway Corp., funds to retire about $5,600,000 of three per cent bonds which have been called for retirement.

Paramount Broadway, which owns the Paramount Theatre, New York, now becomes a wholly-owned subsidiary of Paramount Pictures and its name changed to Paramount Pictures Theatre Corp.

Stern to Cincinnati For MGM Office Meet

C. K. Stern, assistant treasurer of Loew's, will leave here tomorrow for Cincinnati where he will conduct M-G-M's third and last meeting this season of office and field auditors, Oct. 21-23, at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel.

Others attending from the home office will be: Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations; William Brenner, in charge of branch maintenance; Arthur Sterling, assistant to Cummings; Rose Klein, assistant to Sterling; A. J. Nelson, head of statistics; Leonard Hirsch, assistant to E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Eastern sales manager; Paul Richrath, assistant to John J. Maloney, Central sales manager; Mike Simons, editor of the *Distributor*, company publication, and Max Wolff.

May Settle IATSE St. Louis Dispute

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 18.—Hearings before Regional Labor Board Arbitrator Jules Kohn of Kansas City were resumed here yesterday in the dispute between the IATSE Stagehands' Local No. 6 and St. Louis exhibitors over the number of stagehands to be employed in theatres.

It is expected that the hearings will last at least six days. It is intimated, but not confirmed, that an attempt may be made to compromise the dispute before the case is submitted to the arbitrator.

Sues for $250,000

Myron Pallant, composer, filed a $250,000 injunction suit against RKO, Frank Sinatra, Sammy Cahn, Tommy Dorsey, Jules Styne, T. B. Harms Co., Robbins Music, NBC, CBS and Decca Records yesterday in Federal court claiming plagiarism of the title and music to his song, "Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are."

Exhibitors Lauded

Major General T. A. Terry has commended New York exhibitors, headed by Fred Schwartz and Sam Rinzler, for their cooperation with the War Department in the last Woman's Army Corps enlistment campaign.

Propose Video On Records

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 18.—A process for recording television programs on discs has been developed by Packard Manufacturing Co. A public demonstration is planned within a month, according to Raymond Binney, manager of the company's experimental division.

The company plans to manufacture and sell the television discs after the war. Indications are that it will be possible to retail the records for as little "as 20 per cent above the price of home phonograph records."

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Lewis Allen Weiss, vice president of Don Lee Broadcasting System, told the Federal Communications Commission holding frequency allocations hearings here that high program and production costs will confine television to the large cities for some time. Weiss said he believed only cities of 500,000 population or more could support a television station and estimated that only about 10 per cent of a city's residents would see broadcasts.

BOSTON, Oct. 18.—Thomas F. Joyce, general manager of the television division of RCA predicted that by 1955, 30,000,000 American homes would be equipped with television receivers, in an address before the 18th annual Boston Conference on Distribution. By then, Joyce said, it is possible that there will be over 40,000,000 families in the U. S.

British-Lion Year's Net Near Double

LONDON, Oct. 18.—Net profit of $405,080 has been reported here by British-Lion for the year ended last March, compared to a net of $226,544 for the previous year. Gross last year was $821,288, against $628,000 one year ago. The company has declared a 50 cent dividend on ordinary shares.

Other film financial news here includes Gaumont-British Pictures' dividend declaration of six per cent.

Archibald Here For Brief Visit

George Archibald, controller of the British Ministry of Information, arrived in New York by plane Wednesday from London for a brief stay in the U. S. Archibald was a former director of the film division of British Information Services in New York. He was succeeded by Thomas Baird who is expected to return from England later this week.

Montgomery to Cowan

Robert Montgomery, for 19 months executive assistant to Hal Horne, director of advertising-publicity at 20th Century-Fox, has resigned, effective Oct. 27, to join Lester Cowan Productions as Eastern publicity representative.

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Special Crews Set For Emergencies

(Continued from page 1)

employee is unable to reach a theatre after the "V-E" Day observation starts, the relief squad goes into action to fill the gap. Likewise, if the staff is unable to cope with a disturbance, uniformed personnel will be rushed from the head office. Similar precautions are being worked out in other large centres across the Dominion.

At the first word of "V-E"-Day, theatre staffs are instructed to take panic stations while an announcement is made to the audience that patrons may leave by any door and to do so orderly. The expectation is that many will want to go home or to main downtown intersections. No plan has been made to provide any stage or other ceremony to mark the occasion. Some exhibitors may close their doors after official word is forthcoming of cessation of hostilities.

Stow Furniture

Theatre managers generally have been instructed to stow away all moveable furniture, framed paintings, mirrors, advertising displays, statues and other objects as soon as word is received. Orders have been issued to keep lobbies clear to avoid accidents. Managers have checked supplies of light bulbs so that all electric fixtures can be turned on full, regardless of wartime power restrictions, to prevent panic. Emergency lighting systems, operated by storage batteries and installed at the time of blackouts, have been checked for instant use.

Many theatre owners have checked insurance policies to make sure "mob" and other risks are covered. Flags and bunting are to be hung above the reach of pedestrians because of the possibility of damage or accident.

500 at Tribute to Arthur Mayer

(Continued from page 1)

Robert P. Patterson, with whom Mayer was associated as civilian consultant.

Mayer, in his address, registered a plea for some sort of unified organization to face post-war industry problems, without, he stressed, discarding any existing organizations.

Petersen lauded the industry for its contribution to the war effort. He referred to the success Mayer achieved in enlarging war plant audiences which view the War Department's industrial incentive films. Petersen, who returned to Washington today, greeted Sam Dembow, who succeeds Mayer in the War Department post. Mayer was presented with a gold cigarette case.

Others invited to the dais were: Barney Balaban, S. H. Fabian, Herman Gluckman, Francis S. Harmon, Bob O'Donnell, Sam Rinzler, George Schaefer, Ed. Schreiber, Neil Agnew, Walton Ament, Jack Alicoate, Joseph Bernhard, Nate Blumberg, Walter Brown, Max Cohen, Jack Cohn, Tom Connors, William Crockett, Sam Dembow, Jay Emanuel, John Hertz, Jr., Malcolm Kingsberg, W. C. Michel, Charles Moskowitz, Ferdinand Pecora, William F. Rodgers, Grad Sears, Adolph Weinstock and Adolph Zukor.

Exhibitors Start Fight On Tax Discrimination

(Continued from page 1)

tion; San Bernardino, Cal. exhibitors are campaigning against a proposed tax, etc.

An attempt to revive the plan for a permanent exhibitors' national tax conference through the exhibitors' division of the War Activities Committee has apparently been abandoned, it has been learned here. Reasons for giving up the projected scheme to create a united industry front on vital tax matters, is a reported lack of enthusiasm in some quarters.

National Allied and MPTOA will, it is understood, continue their individual tax-coordinating committees on both a national and regional basis.

With convening of many state legislatures on Jan. 1, industry legislative representatives here see the possibility of attempts being made to impose additional taxation, viewed as discriminatory by exhibitors, on top of the present Federal 20 per cent tax.

Fight City Tax

Exhibitors in San Bernardino, Cal., are presently campaigning against a proposed city admission tax which has been submitted to a referendum. They are using newspaper advertising and trailers in their theatres.

Branch of Allied of Michigan, is urging all in the industry there to specifically fight a bill due to come before the Legislature in January giving cities the right to levy excise taxes.

"It is just as important to branch managers and film salesmen as to exhibitors to plan in advance to block adverse and discriminatory legislation," Branch said.

"In prospect is a bill giving municipalities the right to levy excise taxes. This could mean that local option would be in effect. Some city might levy a tax and its neighbor might not. Patrons of your theatre, and of mine, might easily drive to the other city to escape that nuisance tax.

"We are told that it is probable, if this bill should pass, a tax comparable to that of the Federal admission tax would be used as a pattern," Branch warned.

At a state-wide conference of the new Kentucky Association of Motion Picture Exhibitors, held at the Brown Hotel, Louisville, Andy Anderson, president, stated that the primary objective is aimed at the elimination of discriminatory excise taxes. According to Anderson, theatre patrons have been taxed long after the repeal date promised when the tax was placed on theatres. "We take the position," stated Anderson, that theatres have not been surpassed by any industry in point of altruistic service rendered the nation in this era of crisis and, being the industry which supplies the preponderance of the amusement and relaxation so vital to individuals in both times of war and of peace, we are not a proper vehicle for excise taxation."

"Kentucky has had no exhibitor's organization in the past and the results are self evident. No state has higher admission taxes than ours but we shall remedy this at the next regular session of the General Assembly in 1946. Exhibitors in all sections of the state have rallied to the call and our movement is growing rapidly," he added.

Faced 40% Levy

"The lower house of the Kentucky General Assembly by a heavy majority passed a bill this Spring which would have placed an additional tax on Kentucky admissions. With this increase patrons would have paid close to 40 per cent in direct taxes. Passage was narrowly averted. Sensing this a harbinger of worse things to come, Kentucky exhibitors have conducted a campaign for an organization to represent them in matters of mutual concern. This campaign was rounded out by nine conferences held in the respective Congressional Districts," Anderson explained.

Each district elected one director, and the board has elected Anderson, Hartford, president; Willard Gebhart, Harrodsburg, vice-president; Fred Switow, Louisville, treasurer and, W. Freeman Smith, Beaver Dam, executive director. Directors are: Leo F. Keiler, W. E. Horsefield, Sylvester Grove, C. S. Caldwell, Tom Hill, Willard Gebhart, W. J. Ward, A. J. Sexton, Jr., Chas. R. Mitchell, Fred J. Dolle and Anderson.

Floyd Hopkins, 65, Dies at Philadelphia

HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct. 18.—C. Floyd Hopkins, 65, city manager for Fabian theatres, died Monday in Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, following a long illness.

Hopkins entered the theatre business in 1907 with Wilmer and Vincent in Reading. He came to Harrisburg a year later as manager of the Orpheum, and later managed the Majestic and Colonial here, as well as W. and V. houses in Reading. He was active in Masonic and civic organizations and was a former president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Back to First Love

DES MOINES, Oct. 18. — Walter Ahrens, who after 10 years in the picture business, deserted to sell clothes for Hart, Shaffner and Marx, is back managing the RKO Orpheum Theatre.

Minneapolis WAC Aids Paper Drive

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 18.—The local War Activities Committee, under the chairmanship of John J. Friedl, collected 1,496,190 pounds of waste paper in a month.

Area committeemen who participated in the drive were: William Levy, Leo Aved, Martin Lebedoff, Charles Zinn, William Elson, Mike Guttman, John Hurley, Kenneth Ereckson and Ted Mann. A theatre pass was given to each Minneapolis child who brought in 50 pounds or more waste paper.

Drops Some-Run Charge

L. G. M. Memorial Theatre Corp., operator of the theatre of that name in Lowell, Mass., has withdrawn its some-run complaint against RKO and Paramount, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Jack Warner Sees Post-war Boom In Film Business

(Continued from page 1)

Warner, Major Albert Warner, Charles Einfeld, Joseph Bernhard, Ben Kalmenson, Samuel Schneider, Harry M. Kalmine, Joseph S. Hummel, Wolfe Cohen, Mort Blumenstock, Arthur Sachson, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Norman H. Moray, Robert W. Perkins, Harry Goldberg, Jacob Wilk, Samuel Carlisle, W. Stewart McDonald, E. K. Hessberg, I. F. Dolid, Ed Hinchy, Stanley Hatch, Albert Howson, Gil Golden, Larry Golob and others.

"The industry has educated the public to better pictures," Warner said, "and the only way we can hold their patronage is by giving them consistently better pictures.

"There is every reason to believe that we have a postwar boom ahead of us," Warner continued. "While there may be some temporary slackening in business activity to permit re-adjustment to a peace-time basis, the backlog of civilian demand is too great to permit slowing up in our national business volume. Exhibitors and producers who make the mistake of turning to cheaper pictures now will find themselves out of the running later on.

Foreign Competition

"There is also a long-range reason why everyone interested in the welfare of our industry should cooperate to keep standards high. As soon as the war is over the American industry is going to face competition that it never had before—the competition of newly developed film industries of other countries. The war has speeded up picture-making in many countries and these new film industries will expand greatly as soon as the war ends. England wants its own film industry and so do France, Mexico, Argentina and other countries. They will be worthy competitors.

"The years after the war will see a change in American motion picture audiences," Warner predicted. "Men returning from the fighting fronts will bring back with them a new appreciation of the value of motion pictures. They won't tolerate the misuse of the medium for unworthy purposes. They will insist upon seeing pictures they can respect, and the future of the motion picture industry depends on how well we satisfy that demand."

Equipment Survey By State Dept.

(Continued from page 1)

exporters will be able to evaluate the possibilities of new sales.

A series of reports on world film markets not now under the control of Germany and Japan, which is being released by Golden, has given the industry information on which it will launch its drive for expansion of foreign sales. The new survey of the world projector situation will give the equipment industry also a basis for postwar foreign operations.

Epidemic Hits Lansing

LANSING, Mich., Oct. 18.—Local theatres have banned children under 13 due to a ringworm epidemic.

1ST DATE IS
AHEAD OF 'C

—YOU'LL SEE THE SAME THI

AND OVER AGAIN WHE

NOW AT THE N. Y. HOLLYWOOD

HUMPHREY

THE ADAPTATION OF *Ernest Hemingway's* "TO HAVE AN

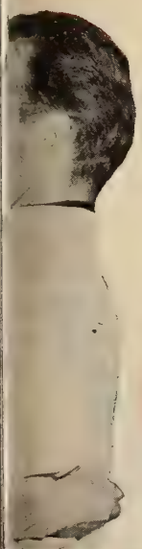
with

WALTER BRENNAN · LAUREN BACALL · DOLORES MORAN · HOAGY

THOUSANDS
ASABLANCA'!

HAPPEN OVER

VER IT PLAYS



BOGART

HAVE NOT" Warners Have it!

ICHAEL · A HOWARD HAWKS PRODUCTION Screen Play by Jules Furthman and William Faulkner JACK L. WARNER Executive Producer

Keep Selling Bonds!

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY THAT NEVER ENDS

Arthur's Fight On Arbitration Goes to Court

(Continued from page 1)

ican Arbitration Association and its decisions as regards clearance for the plaintiffs' theatres. Complainants point out that the original consent decree conferred power to the AAA which expired Nov. 19, 1943, but that the AAA is continuing to use that power. Also, it is stated that in the modified decree offered the court by the Government on Aug. 7, 1944, this power to the AAA is to be continued indefinitely.

Plaintiffs then point out that they have no quarrel with the distributors, except that the disributors are bound by the decisions of the AAA, which are allegedly, "personal, arbitrary and capricious opinion of will."

The specific case cited is the reduction by an arbitrator, Harry G. Erbs, of a clearance to seven days from an unnamed larger number of days. This case involved only two independent exhibitors, but now the producer-distributors refuse to sell except on the newly arranged clearance, which, the plaintiffs say, violates their Constitutional rights. The arbitration system is accused of strengthening an unlawful conspiracy, monopoly and restraint of trade by limiting and restricting the rights of independent exhibitors to make contracts for films and arrange for them on their own terms.

The relief sought is that the application for a modification of the decree be denied, insofar as it provides for a continuation of arbitration, that the decree be vacated to the same extent, and that the producer-distributors be ordered to desist from obeying any awards made by the AAA.

Legion Classifies Eleven New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: A-1, "Law of the Valley" and "Shadow of Suspicion," Monogram; "Meet Me in St. Louis," M-G-M, and "Vigilantes of Dodge City," Republic; Class A-2, "Alaska" and "Bowery Champs," Monogram; "Dead Men's Eyes," Universal; "Laura," 20th Century-Fox, "To Have and Have Not" and "The Last Ride," Warners, and "Strange Affair," Columbia.

Allied Suggests Insurance

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 18.—In a current bulletin, Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of Eastern Pennsylvania Allied, suggested the possibilities of theatres investigating whether or not their properties would be adequately covered by insurance in case "excessive vandalism is generated by super-ebullient enthusiam" on V-Day.

Support War Chest

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 18.—War Chest subscriptions here stand at 15,348 out of a maximum potential of 25,000 among all studios. Actual money subscribed, or pledged, thus far is under last year's total, however.

International, Monogram and PRC already have met and exceeded their quotas.

'SYWA' in Cleveland Gets Big $23,000

CLEVELAND, Oct. 18.—"Since You Went Away" is leading the field here for the second week. Capacity crowds predict a big $23,000 gross at Loew's State, where the average is $19,000. The RKO Palace with a stage show and "Take It or Leave It" on the screen looks like a good $25,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 18:

"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,500).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,100).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,200).
"Song of the Open Road" (UA)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-90c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $25,400).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,000).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000).

'Janie' Is Good for $12,000 in K. C.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 18.—The Newman held "Janie" for a second week with good results, grossing $12,000. The Esquire took around $8,000 with "Stagecoach."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 17-20:

"Stagecoach" (UA)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000).
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
"Secret Command" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Janie" (WB)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,000).
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,400).
"Stagecoach" (UA)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600).

Silkind To Make Six Operatic Features

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 18.—Miguel Silkind, president-producer of Aguila Films, will make a series of six features, each of which will be a complete opera, and each to cost $100,000, half of which will be U. S. capital. Pictures will be made with New York Metropolitan opera stars.

Guadalajara Films Set

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 18.—Guadalajara Films, S.A., has been formed here as a producing and studio operating company by a syndicate of film men, headed by Jose Angel Gonzalez.

Marmorstein to Build

CLEVELAND, Oct. 18.—Max Marmorstein has purchased land in suburban Shaker Heights at a reported $1,250,000 on which he will construct a shopping and amusement center to include a theatre. It is expected that the Community Circuit, in which Marmorstein has an interest, will operate the theatre, to cost $750,000.

Three War Heroes To Tour on Bonds

(Continued from page 1)

distributor rally in Los Angeles next Monday. Each of the three groups of national committee members making the nationwide tour will be accompanied by a Treasury representative.

Capt. Raymond W. Wild, of the Army Air Corps, one of the Treasury representatives, will arrive here from Washington today to attend a staff meeting. He will accompany the group headed by Brandt to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Omaha, Kansas City, Chicago, Cleveland, Louisville, Hartford, Boston and Charlotte. Lt. Col. Roswell Rosengren, U. S. Engineers, will start with the committee on Nov. 1 at the meeting in Detroit. Following, he will attend the rallies in Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York. This group will be headed by committee vice-chairman W. F. Crockett.

Lt. Louis Largey, U. S. Marine Corps, a veteran of the Pacific theatre, who was decorated with the Silver Star by Admiral Nimitz, will appear at the Portland meeting on Oct. 25 and the Seattle meeting on Oct. 26, accompanying Crockett's group.

Brandt and John Hertz, Jr., publicity and advertising director, will leave here Friday for the Los Angeles meeting, which is expected to be attended by 500. Crockett will leave for the Coast meeting on Saturday. Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman, has already left New York.

Challenge 100 New Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

terials for alterations of business establishments and homes are being denied."

Replying to a request from the Senator for an outline of the general construction policy, Krug explained that the fundamental principle upon which applications are judged is "essentiality to the war effort."

There must be a shortage of the product or the service that will be produced or rendered by the facilities, he said. The cost in resources must not be excessive when measured against the benefits to be derived to the war effort and it must be shown there are not suitable existing facilities available to serve the purpose.

"These criteria apply to the processing of all project applications, whether to produce munitions or to render a community service," Krug declared. The approval of motion picture theatres and other places of amusement would fall in the latter category in those areas where the provision for such recreational facilities for war workers has been essential."

Owner 'Bicycles' Self

DES MOINES, Oct. 18.—A solution to both the manpower and gas shortage problems has been worked out in Jefferson, Ia., by Sam Blackburn, operator of both the Iowa and Howard Theatres. Blackburn "bicycles" back and forth between the two houses, making every change at both places.

That's what you'll see if you look into Altec's record of War against Wear and Tear of Booth Equipment. Our well-trained service engineers are up to date in their knowledge of all types of sound reproducing equipment.

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Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 77 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1944 | TEN CENTS

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Columbia Will Operate Own Foreign Units

Expansion Interrupted By War to Be Resumed

Many of the foreign franchise agencies which represented Columbia abroad up to the outbreak of World War II will probably be replaced by the company's own branches as soon as feasible after 'V-E Day,' it was learned here yesterday.

The outbreak of the war in Europe caught Columbia in a period of expansion of foreign operations on the Continent, Joseph A. McConville, general foreign sales manager, disclosed, and the company will resume its development of the market.

Where the previous franchise holders have 'vanished', McConville said, the company will open its own branches with new personnel. Columbia's manager in France, Alex Stein, and his assistant, Alderink, have been located, he said, and are at present cooperating with the Psychological Warfare Division in helping to find prints and distribution centers. McConville observed that the PWD is doing a splendid job for the Army and, indirectly, for the industry.

The Army will probably release its PWD operatives soon in turning the industry back to the Office of War Information and, simultaneously, turn it back to industry operation, he said.

Columbia may enter Mexican production, the foreign manager admitting that the company "may cooperate with some Mexican producers." At present it is releasing Spanish-language films in Latin-America.

'Big Blow' Closes Cuban Theatres

The 150-mile-an-hour hurricane which cut a swath of destruction through Western Cuba on Wednesday, forced all theatres in that territory to close, Herbert White, 20th Century-Fox Cuban manager, reported here yesterday.

White disclosed that theatre business in Cuba has advanced 20 per cent over last year. Havana, which has only three first-runs, is a release bottleneck, and can use at least three more, White said. The interior of Cuba is fertile for a number of new moderate sized houses.

Bond Tour to End in N. Y.

The industry's mobilization for the Sixth War Loan drive will culminate in a meeting here on Friday, Nov. 17, at the Hotel Astor, following 18 previous regional meetings, the first in Los Angeles on Monday.

Arrangements for the New York rally, which will take place on the eve of the drive, Nov. 20-Dec. 16, are being made by a committee headed by Malcolm Kingsberg, Metropolitan exhibitor chairman, with Harry Lowenstein and Frank Damis, Northern New Jersey co-chairmen.

Capt. Raymond W. Wild, one of the three war heroes who will accompany national committee members on their tours as representatives of the Treasury Department, reported to committee headquarters today. He and W. F. Crockett, vice-chairman, will leave tomorrow by plane for Los Angeles, where a reception committee including national co-chairman Hugh Bruen, Gus Metzger, Southern California chairman, and Abbott and Costello will greet Capt. Wild.

New Building Rules Coming for Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 19.—Requirements for building theatres here may be changed. Following the organization meeting of Mayor Bernard Samuel's new building code committee members were told that the city's outmoded code should be revised.

The present code consists of a number of unrelated Acts of Assembly and ordinances which have been enacted during the past 50 years.

AMPA Honors Press, Radio In Forum

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, in its 1944-45 season, will conduct a series of forums with representatives of press and radio giving their viewpoints on motion picture publicity, advertising and film merchandising, it was announced yesterday by Martin Starr, Ampa president. James Dunn, United Artists publicity manager, will be chairman of the first forum.

Sidney Spiegel Dies

CHICAGO, Oct. 19.—Sidney Spiegel, vice president and treasurer of the Essaness theatre circuit here, died at his home today. Spiegel has been in ill health for sometime. He has been an executive with the circuit since its formation over 20 years ago. He is survived by his wife, the former Kitty Byfield.

Navy Will Not Drop Script Inspections

Hollywood, Oct. 19.—End of the war in Europe will effect no change in the Navy's approval of film scripts, according to Commander A. J. Bolton, studio liaison officer here.

Whether the Navy's Hollywood film office—established for expediency during the war—will be continued in the postwar, or whether script inspection will be returned to Washington, has not been determined.

RKO Union Awaits Counter Proposals

RKO is understood to have told representatives of Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistants in the 41 RKO theatres in the Metropolitan area that the company is not prepared to fix a retroactive date for wage increases as demanded by the Guild, but that the company is anxious to continue general contract negotiations.

The Guild had indicated that it would consider negotiations broken off and seek the intervention of the New York State Board of Mediation if RKO did not set a retroactive date by yesterday. A Guild spokesman said yesterday that action on the latter would be deferred until Monday

New Theatre Plans On the Increase

Looking to the day when the war's drawing to a close will enable the Government to lift restrictions on building new theatres, circuit and independent operators throughout the country are planning new houses at an accelerated tempo, according to reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents.

Scores of intentions to build new houses have already been filed. To the forefront this week in the planning are the Crescent Amusement Co. and its affiliates. One of the latter, the Cumberland Amusement Co., of which Cowan Oldham is president, has blueprinted three theatres: one at Winchester, Tenn., another at Franklin, Tenn., and the third at an unannounced location. Meanwhile, Crescent has purchased for $60,000 the Grand Theatre at Huntsville, Ala., which it has been operating under lease, and plans improvements as

(Continued on page 5)

New Pattern For Higher Scale Films

Showings in First Half Of Week Is Profitable

Possibly pointing the way for subsequent run theatres to play advanced admission price films on a basis satisfactory to distributor, exhibitor and patron, is the experience of the RKO circuit in the Metropolitan New York area which started with "The Song of Bernadette" last July. The booking, three days on the first half of the week, whereas distributors usually demand preferred playing time of Thursday through Sundays, produced receipts exceeding those of many outstanding non-advanced-scale films that played a full week at regular admissions, according to circuit executives. As a result the RKO Metropolitan circuit will play "Wilson" on the same basis.

The theory advanced by both RKO and 20th Century-Fox officials is that this method takes cognizance of the opposition that exists on the part of ragular patrons to advanced admission price films. In playing the film on a Monday through Wednesday period, it is said, all patrons who wish to see the film are enabled to do so without interfering with the attendance of regular patrons who customarily concentrate their attendance at the weekend and would ordinarily be kept away from the house if they did not care for advanced prices on Saturdays and Sundays.

It is also pointed out that the theatre, by showing big films in the first half of the week, is able to reach large numbers who do not attend films

(Continued on page 5)

GCF, Not Eagle-Lion On Rank Films Here

Films made by J. Arthur Rank's various British companies, and released here by United Artists, will bear the legend 'GCF Presents' rather than the name of Eagle-Lion, Rank's American distribution agency. 'GCF' represents General Cinema Finance, which finances production of all films under the Rank banner. Rank's name will not appear on the films, either, it is said.

Buchanan and Co. will handle U. S. advertising on Rank productions released through UA; David E. Weshner will handle publicity. Robin Harris of UA will handle exploitation.

Gamble Requests 16mm. Bond Aid

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—The 16mm industry today was called upon by Ted Gamble, national director of the Treasury's War Finance Division, to reach 25,000,000 people in the Sixth War Loan drive.

Recalling that in the last campaign 25,000 16-mm showings were seen by 10,000,000 persons, Gamble declared that the coming drive will have to be more intensive and asked the industry to put forth a greater effort.

Merriam N. Holtz of Portland, Ore., vice-president of the National Association of Visual Education Dealers, has been brought to Washington as consultant to the War Finance Division, and the Navy has made five one and two-reel shorts and the Army five three-minute bulletins for 16-mm. showing exclusively.

Kingsberg Completes County Chairmen

Naming the following county chairmen, Harry Royster, Dutchess; Mrs. Bess Fisher, Lower Orange; Fred Lichtman, Rockland; Robert Case, Ulster, and Max Cohen, Sullivan; Malcolm Kingsberg, War Activities Committee general chairman for the New York area in the Sixth War Loan Drive, has completed the roster of industry chairmen in the 14 downstate counties.

Vogel 'Surveys' Loew Circuit for 6th Drive

Joseph R. Vogel, head of Loew's out-of-town circuit, yesterday completed a city-by-city checkup of the circuit in relation to Sixth War Loan activities. All theatres where bond-sales fell below average in the fifth loan will take steps to reach average for the sixth, Loew reports.

Some-Run, Clearance Complaint Filed

Marchesi Bros., operators of the Geneseo Theatre, Geneseo, Ill., has filed a combination some-run and clearance complaint against Paramount, RKO and Loew's in the Chicago tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Complainant charges that clearance granted to the Le Claire and Illini Theatres, Moline, Ill., and the Majestic and Strand Theatres, East Moline, is "arbitrary, excessive and unreasonable" and asks that it be reduced. Complainant also alleges that the defendant distributors have refused to grant some-run of feature pictures.

Condon Retained

Columbia has extended its deal with Richard Condon, Inc., for special publicity services on "key" productions, it was reported here yesterday by Frank P. Rosenberg, Columbia's director of publicity-advertising.

'Doughgirls' Tradeshow

National trade showings of Warners' "The Doughgirls" will be held Nov. 6. The film will be released nationally at the end of November.

Personal Mention

MERVYN LEROY will leave New York tomorrow for the Coast.

•

BARRINGTON C. GAIN and DR. ALEXANDER GALPERSON, distribution representatives of J. ARTHUR RANK, are due here from the Coast today. JOHN DAVIS is due in Toronto from London.

•

MAJOR MONROE GREENTHAL, chief of the motion picture branch of the War Department's industrial services division, will leave New York today for a three-week trip to California.

•

LOUIS B. MAYER, injured in a fall from a horse in August, is steadily improving at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles, and is expected to leave in two or three weeks.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, assistant exploitation manager of 20th Century-Fox, will leave New York for Boston tonight.

•

ABEL VIGARD, head of Warner Theatres' legal department, will leave New York for Chicago on Monday.

•

LOU GERARD of 20th Century-Fox's exploitation department is the father of a first child, MERYL ANN.

•

CHARLES SKOURAS, who left Hollywood for New York on Wednesday, will remain here for three weeks.

•

P. C. MOONEY, Eastern division sales manager of National Screen Service, is in Atlanta.

•

WILBUR B. ENGLAND, director of personnel of RKO Theatres, will be in Boston over the weekend.

•

MARY BLAIR, art director for WALT DISNEY, will return to Hollywood today.

•

JOHN R. WOOD, JR., March of Time sales manager, will return today from Boston.

J. J. O'LEARY, general manager for Publix-Comerford, is here from Scranton.

•

GEORGE A. HICKEY, M-G-M district manager on the Coast; MAURY GOLDSTEIN, New Haven manager, and BEN ROSENWALD, Charlotte manager, left New York yesterday for their respective posts.

•

PAT O'BRIEN, HARRY BROWN, JINX FALKENBERG and BETTY YEATON have arrived at New Delhi, India, to start a USO tour, according to press dispatches reaching here.

•

FLOYD B. ODLUM, president of Atlas Corp. and chairman of the board of RKO, will speak on postwar possibilities of investment trust at the New School tonight.

•

FRANK DOWNEY, M-G-M branch manager in Detroit and HARRY SHUMOW, Milwaukee branch manager, will arrive in New York Monday.

•

EDWARD CARRIER, M-G-M special exploitation representative, will leave New York for St. Louis next week.

•

MAURICE WOLFF, M-G-M New England district manager, will leave New York for Boston today.

•

MITCHELL RAWSON, head of special assignments for M-G-M, will arrive from the Coast tomorrow.

•

JOHN J. MALONEY, M-G-M Central sales manager, will arrive in New York next week from Pittsburgh.

•

HENRY L. NATHANSON, president of Regal Films, Ltd. of Canada, will return to Toronto today.

•

FRANK SHAW, Universal associate producer, will arrive in New York over the week-end.

•

DARRYL F. ZANUCK is en route to Hollywood from Omaha.

William, Last of Bausch Sons, Dies

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 19.—Last surviving son of John Jacob Bausch, founder of Bausch and Lomb Optical Co., William Bausch, 84, chairman of the company's board of directors, died here today at his home. His sudden death followed that of his brother, Edward, former board chairman, by three months.

Bausch was active in B. and L.'s research laboratories up to the last. He had been with the company 68 years and is credited with saving the nation from visual chaos during World War I when he started an optical glass manufacturing plant here.

Irene Sadel Dies

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Mrs. Irene Weber Sadel, secretary to Loew's Eastern division manager, Carter Barron for the past 12 years, died here today after an illness of several months. She is survived by her husband, T-Sgt. Dave Sadel.

Universal Party Held For Robert Paige

Universal was host at a cocktail party yesterday for Robert Paige at the Hampshire House here. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Prutzman, Joseph Seidelman, Maurice Bergman, F. J. A. McCarthy, Fred Meyers, Mrs. Robert Paige, Ernest Emerling, Faye McKenzie, James Jordan, Al Horowits, Henry Linet and Robert Wile.

Burke Will Probated

FLEMINGTON, N. J., Oct. 19.—The will of Edwin Burke, winner of an Academy Award in 1932 for his screen adaptation of the book, "Bad Girl," was admitted for probate here today. Bequests include a $150,000 trust fund for charity groups including Catholic Charities of New York, the Salvation Army, Father Flanagan's Boys' Town, Nebraska, and the "100 neediest cases" designated by the New York *Times*. Burke died Sept. 26.

Underwood Honors RKO'S Depinet

DALLAS, Oct. 19.—J. B. Underwood, Columbia's Southwestern division manager, and the local industry honored Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio president, with a luncheon today at the Variety Club. Underwood is Southwestern distribution chairman for the War Activities Committee and Depinet is WAC distributor chairman. Also attending were members of the distributors committee for WAC in this territory.

Depinet arrived in Dallas Tuesday to attend the world premiere of RKO's "The Master Race" Wednesday at the Majestic Theatre. He will leave tonight for Hollywood to attend the premiere of RKO's "None But the Lonely Heart," and thereafter will start a war bond tour.

M-G-M to Promote Anniversary Stamp

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—While the new 50th film anniversary commemorative postage stamp will be sold on issue day Oct. 31, only in New York and Los Angeles, Loew's Capitol here is planning an Oct. 31 promotional stunt.

Loew's has arranged with Washington philatelists, newspapers and Postmaster General Frank C. Walker to place a display in the theatre. It will also include items from President Roosevelt's personal stamp collection. Part of the display will be "first-day" cancellation stamps postmarked in New York at 12:01 A.M., Oct. 31, and rushed to Washington.

Writers' Mobilization Communist: Tenney

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 19.—The *Herald-Express* today quoted chairman Jack B. Tenney of the State Legislative Committee on Un-American Activities, as saying, in a rejoinder to the Hollywood Writers Mobilization charge that the Tenney Committee is obstructing the war effort: "The Writers Mobilization, which is a brain child of the American Writers Congress, is Communist by inception, by inspiration and by domination."

HWM on Tuesday announced a two-point program for countering earlier Tenney accusations.

Warner Club Meeting

The home office Warner Club will hold its annual meeting and election of officers tomorrow at the home office. Following the meeting, to be presided over by Martin F. Bennett, president of the welfare organization for Warner employees, the annual luncheon will be held at the Hotel Picadilly. Delegates will include representatives from Ace Film Laboratories, Warner Theatres, music firms and exchanges and the home office.

Reception for Brown

Joe E. Brown will be honor guest at a reception at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here this afternoon, with McKesson and Robbins as host.

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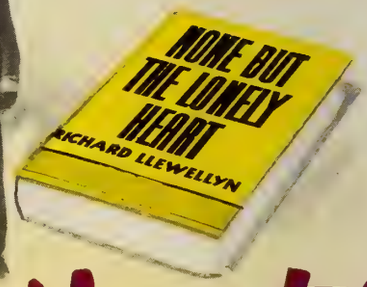
Brilliant
...IN HIS MOST DISTINGUISHED PERFORMANCE
(Trust RKO to give you the big ones!)

This LOVE . . . a torment . . . and delight!

Each moment they shared in the shadow of fear...yet when her arms embraced him, her cheeks caressed his...he knew he was in the grip of a spell he could not break...even though it imperiled his life!



CARY GRANT

in

"None but the Lonely Heart"

with

Miss ETHEL BARRYMORE

Miss ETHEL BARRYMORE

BARRY FITZGERALD

JANE WYATT

BARRY FITZGERALD

JUNE DUPREZ • JANE WYATT

GEORGE COULOURIS • DAN DURYEA

ROMAN BOHNEN • KONSTANTIN SHAYNE

PRODUCED BY DAVID HEMPSTEAD

DIRECTED BY CLIFFORD ODETS

Written for the Screen by Clifford Odets

FROM THE NOVEL BY RICHARD LLEWELLYN

RKO RADIO PICTURES

LITHO

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 19

INGRID BERGMAN'S next picture will be "Notorious," original by Lois Anderson which David O. Selznick purchased for the star. The studio is keeping the plot of the story secret, since it deals with a novel post-war problem. . . . Monogram has assigned Gale Storm to co-star with Phil Regan in "Sunbonnet Sue," musical based on Gus Edwards' song hit of that title. The picture will be made by the newly-organized Dunlap Productions.

•

Paul Malvern will produce "The Dawn Returns" for Universal. It is a romantic comedy with a Latin background, in which Turhan Bey will have his first solo starring role. . . . Walter Lang will direct "State Fair" for producer William Perlberg at 20th Century-Fox. . . . Columbia has renewed the option on John Calvert's contract and has cast him as the heavy in "Our Wandering Daughters."

•

Frederick Jackson, who recently resigned as associate producer for Andrew Stone, has been engaged by Leon Fromkess in that capacity and has assigned "Under Your Sombrero" as his first under the PRC banner. . . . Columbia has named Will Jason to direct "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal," a romance about a Marine back from the war.

•

Manny Wolfe, former story and scenario editor at Paramount, has joined James Francis Crowe at RKO as editorial assistant to William Dozier . . . John Miles has been assigned a role in "San Antonio," Warner picture starring Errol Flynn.

•

Sidney Kingsley, author of the Pulitzer prize-winning play, "Men in White," has been signed to a three-year contract by M-G-M and is working on an original, "The Home-Coming of Ulysses." . . . Cecil Kellaway has been cast by Hal Wallis for one of the top supporting roles in "The Love Letters," Wallis' first for Paramount. . . . Columbia has signed George Sherman to direct the next of the "Crime Doctor" series.

Reagan to 'Irish' Group

Charles M. Reagan, vice president in charge of Paramount distribution, has been named to the honorary committee in charge of the annual Notre Dame-Army rally to be held Nov. 10 at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel. Proceeds will be turned over to the Notre Dame servicemen's fund. Also named to the group was Edgar Kobak, vice-president of the Blue Network.

Hughes Controls TWA

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—The Civil Aeronautics Board today authorized Howard Hughes to acquire control of Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc. The Hughes Tool Co. of Houston, Texas, previously had owned in excess of 42 per cent of TWA stock, valued at more than $5,500,000.

Use Ads to Explain Increased Prices

Chicago, Oct. 19.—Explaining the policy change to patrons, neighborhood exhibitors here now playing "The Song of Bernadette" at advanced prices are using the following copy in their newspaper ads and trailers:

"Due to producers' demands, increased prices will prevail for this picture only."

Pattern on Films At Advanced Prices

(Continued from page 1)

regularly but are anxious to see outstanding films at a neighborhood house rather than at the downtown first runs. Expenses, it is said, are also reduced since the allocation of weekly costs of advertising and operation is pro-rated with the highest portion going to Saturday-Sunday operation.

Admission prices set for the first half-of-week run of "The Song of Bernadette" at 76 cents during the day and $1.20 in the evening in the RKO theatres did not discourage attendance, it was found. "Wilson" will play most of the RKO houses in the New York area Monday through Wednesday, Oct. 23-25, on the same advanced admission basis. A special campaign will seek to encourage attendance by students who are being offered a 35-cent admission rate until five p.m. Ordinarily, top admission prices at the RKO circuit houses here go to 80 cents.

'Low' Is High on Gross of $15,000

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 19. — "Sweet and Low Down" with a stage show at the Circle will gross $15,000 to lead receipts here this week.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 17-19:

"Sweet and Low Down" (20th-Fox)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,700. (Average: $11,600).
"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Gross: $4,600. (Average: $5,000).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500).
"Cry of the Werewolf" (Col.)
"Soul of the Monster" (Col.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $4,900).

MPA to Meet Tuesday

Motion Picture Associates will hold a luncheon-meeting Tuesday at the Paramount Restaurant here. On the agenda is a discussion of a $1,000 group insurance policy for qualifying members. The plan was discussed at a recent directors' meeting and will now be submitted to the membership for approval.

Ohio Censors Cut 14

COLUMBUUS, Oct. 19.—Ohio censors ordered eliminations from 14 of 72 films reviewed during last month, compared with deletions in 18 of 201 films reviewed for the same period last year.

New Theatre Plans On the Increase

(Continued from page 1)

soon as materials are available, according to Fritz Thomas, manager.

From Columbus, O., comes the report that Herbert Ochs will build a new house at Osborn, to be operated by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Robinson, who already run the Midway there. At Chattanooga, Tenn., Bijou Amusement Co. will put up two theatres for Negroes: the Ross, to seat 1,000, and the Ace, an 800-seater; combined cost is estimated at $240,000.

Another Canadian project is that of Odeon Theatres, which has bought a site for a new house in Peterboro, Ont., which now has two Famous Players theatres and one independent.

Archibald Gets 1st

CLEVELAND, Oct. 19.—The first new wartime theatre in this territory opened in nearby Archibald last week. The house is owned and operated by Charles Scott who also owns the Grove in Columbus Grove. Archibald, with a population of 900, has no other theatre.

Television, Lunches In Postwar Theatre

A $150,000 suburban theatre in the Inwood area near Dallas incorporating new products produced by the war such as black light, television, new plastics and including luminous paints, escalators and a milk bar is being planned by Interstate Theatre Circuit.

It will be located on the southeast corner of Inwood Road and Lovers Lane in a new addition, it was announced by John Q. Adams, executive secretary of Interstate Theatres.

Howards Buy Theatre

PINEVILLE, Ky., Oct. 19.—Grant L. Howard, Patchfork, and L. W. Howard, of Wallins Creek, Ky., have purchased the Gaines Theatre here from H. W. Gladdie.

NEW YORK THEATRES

The Season's Surprise Hit!
"MY PAL, WOLF"
with
SHARYN MOFFETT
Jill Esmond Una O'Connor
George Cleveland
Charles Arnt
Claire Carleton
An RKO Radio Picture
BRANDT'S REPUBLIC
B'way between 51st and 52nd Streets
Phone CO-5-9647

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
EXTRA!
"WHAT TO DO WITH GERMANY"
THE NEW MARCH OF TIME

STATE
ON SCREEN
Gary COOPER
in
'THE STORY OF Dr. WASSELL'
IN PERSON
HARRY COOL
BUCK & BUBBLES
Don McGRANE & ORCH.

PARAMOUNT'S
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay"
starring
Gail RUSSELL - Diana LYNN
with Charlie Ruggles - Dorothy Gish
IN PERSON—FRANK SINATRA
plus Eileen Barton
RAYMOND PAIGE and his orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FIBBER McGEE AND MOLLY
"HEAVENLY DAYS"
EUGENE PAULETTE BARBARA HALE

Gene Tierney - Dana Andrews - Clifton Webb
"LAURA"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Plus on Stage—Hazel SCOTT - Jackie MILES
Jerry WAYNE - HARRISON and FISHER
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

★★ VICTORIA ★★
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
WILSON
20 CENTURY FOX PICTURE
IN TECHNICOLOR

"SWEET AND LOW-DOWN"
20th Century-Fox Picture
Benny GOODMAN And His Band
Linda DARNELL Jack OAKIE Lynn BARI
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'WAY & 46TH ST.
DOORS OPEN 8:30 A. M. - Midnight Shows

$33,100 Is Par; 'SYWA' Gets A Big $77,500

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 19.—"Since You Went Away" went to town in the Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz theatre threesome, climbing toward $77,500 for its first week, which compares with a $33,100 average for the houses.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 18:

"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,200).
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,500).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $9,500).
"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
"Dead Man's Eyes" (Univ.)
HAWAII — (1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $6,200).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $19,700).
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $31,500. (Average: $24,100).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOS ANGELES — (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $39,000. (Average: $14,000).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $16,700).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD — (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $11,000).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $20,300).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RITZ — (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $8,700).
"Maisie Goes to Reno (M-G-M)
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,500).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,492. (Average: $17,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $16,870. (Average: $18,700)
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,158. (Average: $15,200).

'Hitler' and Kaye Big at $29,000

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 19.—"The Hitler Gang" put the Stanley out in front this week with an estimated gross of $29,000. A Sammy Kaye stage show helped to swell receipts.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 16-20:

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
FULTON — (1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,750. (Average: $8,500).
"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
J. P. HARRIS — (2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $21,700).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,400).
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Sammy Kaye stage show. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,350).

'Romance's' $15,000 Best in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Oct. 19.—"An Ameri-Romance" will do approximately $15,000 at RKO's Albee, while "Naughty Marietta," a last-minute booking at RKO's Shubert, is moving toward an estimated $7,500, compared with a $5,000 house average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 18-21:

"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,000)
"Shadow of Suspicion" (Mono.)
"In Old California" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,400).
"Leave It to the Irish" (Mono.)
"Cowboy from Lonesome River" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,500).
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 4th week, following day-date opening at the Albee and Grand and two weeks at the Capitol. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 9 days plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: 7 days, $13,500)
"Naughty Marietta" (M-G-M, reissue)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000).

'Arsenic' Climbs to Very High $19,000

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 19.—Some houses here showed a slight decrease this week, but grosses generally held up.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 17-19:

"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Ever Since Venus" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $15,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (74c-$1.20) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $14,000).
"Bride By Mistake" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $27,000).
"Tiger Shark" (WB)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $25,000).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
"The Great Moment" (Para.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $28,000).
"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT — (2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
"San Fernando Valley" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $13,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
ST. FRANCIS — (1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $12,000).

L. A. Variety to Elect

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 19.—Variety Club Tent No. 25 has elected the following directors, who will hold election of officers next week: Charles P. Skouras, Fred Stein, Lou Anger, Dave Bershon, Guy Gunderson, Jack Berman, Bernard Luber, Oscar Oldknow, Willard Keith, Gus Metzger, George Topper.

'Sweet, Lowdown' Is Sweet and High

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 19.—"Sweet and Lowdown" at the Fox is in the lead in the box office parade of first-runs this week, with an estimated $16,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 18:
ing Oct. 18:

"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
"Secret Command" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE — (3,162) (40c-50c-55c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,900).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,700).
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $18,700).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM — (1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $7,100).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $9,900).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $6,100).
"Brother Rat" (WB, reissue)
"Polo Joe" (WB, reissue)
ST. LOUIS — (4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,600. (Average: $5,200).

'Storm' and 'SWYA' Hold Up in Capital

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Disappointing grosses seem to be on the schedule this week for most downtown theatres, with only "Summer Storm" at Loew's Capitol and "Since You Went Away," being held over at Loew's Columbia, heading for above-average business.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 19:

"Summer Storm" (UA)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Miss America Sheila Barrett. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 4th downtown week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,200).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. On stage: Joey Rardin. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $19,700.
"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $13,600).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Par.)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN — (1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,200).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,000).

Omaha's Leader Is 'Till We Meet Again'

OMAHA, Oct. 19.—"Till We Meet Again," plus "Song of the Open Road," was good for $11,800 here this week. Weather was warm and clear.

Estimated receipts for the week ed Oct. 18-19:

"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
BRANDEIS — (1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,600. (Average: $6,500).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
"The Imposter" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Paramount for "Rainbow Island." Gross: $6,400. (Average: $6,400).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
"Song of the Open Road" (UA)
ORPHEUM — (3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $9,800).
"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,700. (Average: $11,700).

Lena, 'Maisie' Are Terrific, Gross $66,000

CHICAGO, Oct. 19.—The big item of the week in the Loop is Lena Horne's terrific draw at the Chicago Theatre. Her personal appearance, there, with "Maisie Goes to Reno" on the screen, attracted a very heavy $66,000, against a par of $51,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 19:

"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,400).
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
CHICAGO — (3,850) (55c-85c-95c) Stage: Lena Horne and Revue. Gross: $66,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Three of a Kind" (Mono.)
DOWNTOWN — (1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c) Stage: Boyd Raeburn and orchestra. Gross: $14,000.
"Summer Storm" (UA)
GARRICK — (1,000) (55c-65c-95c) Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)
"When Strangers Marry" (Mono.)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c) Stage: Belita and Donna Dae. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
PALACE — (2,500) (55c-65c-95c) Gross: $22,500. (Average: $24,000).
"Janie" (WB)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International)
WOODS — (1,20) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $10,000).

Show Aids 'Blues' To Nice $19,000

BALTIMORE, Oct. 19. — Holdovers and the lack of 'key' attractions among newcomers are responsible for only average business. "Carolina Blues," aided by a stage show, will top the list, taking $19,000 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 19:

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Gypsy Wildcat." (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000).
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,000).
"Carolina Blues" (Col.)
HIPPODROME — (2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage Show: Ed East and Polly, Glenn Miller's Modernaires, Paula Kelly. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,500).
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,000).
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
VALENCIA—(1,446) (35c-44c-55c) and 60c weekends.) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

Fazalbhoy to U. S.

Akbar Fazalbhoy, director of Phototophone Equipments, Ltd., and Fazalbhoy, Ltd., Bombay, is expected in the U. S. shortly on behalf of the post-war reconstruction committee of the Motion Picture Society of India and as adviser to the Indian delegation to the World Business Conference.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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Rank Is After 50% Interest In Odeon's 80

Circuit Promised Strong Backing for Expansion

TORONTO, Oct. 22.—J. Arthur Rank will acquire a 50 per cent interest in the 80 theatres of the Dominion's Odeon theatre circuit, headed by Paul Nathanson, if negotiations between John Davis, Rank emissary from London, and Nathanson are successful, according to informed quarters here. Odeon also has a 50 per cent interest in Rothstein Theatres, which operates seven additional houses in Canada.

J. Arthur Rank

Davis is joint managing director of

(*Continued on page* 8)

Million a Seat for Garden Bond Rally

Seats at Madison Square Garden here, to be the scene of a huge rally on Nov. 20, opening night of the Sixth War Loan Drive, have been scaled for bond purchases of from $100 to $100,000, with some boxes going at $1,000,000 each. Shows featured on major radio networks will entertain and broadcast their coast-to-coast programs from the Garden. A capacity audience of 20,000 is expect-

(*Continued on page* 8)

'Dimes' Report Book Lauds Exhibitors

One of the most detailed reports to be issued on an industry drive is contained in a 52-page brochure, just completed by the 1944 March of Dimes committee, which features the work of every participating theatre and exhibitor.

The booklet, now being distributed to theatre owners who participated in the March of Dimes drive, opens with

(*Continued on page* 7)

RKO Simplifying Corporate Setup

Continuing the simplification of the capital structure of RKO Theatres' corporate setup, which began a month ago with the dissolution of Keith-Albee-Orpheum Corp., RKO will this week dissolve three other inactive subsidiaries: Kings Highway Theatre Corp, St. Johns-Parkway Corp. and Havermeyer-Marcy Corp.

The dissolution of KAO was approved last Sept. 23. Common stock in KAO has passed to the B. F. Keith Corp. which is owned 99.9 per cent by RKO.

20th Has 20 of 27 Working:Moskowitz

Twentieth Century-Fox has finisheded or is filming 20 out of 27 features promised for 1944-45, Joseph H. Moskowitz, vice-president and Eastern studio representative, disclosed at the weekend.

Moskowitz revealed that the following have been completed: "Keys to the Kingdom," "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," "Something for the Boys," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Thunderhead," "Winged Victory," "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier."

Released or waiting release are: "Laura," "Wilson," "Greenwich Village," "Take It or Leave It," "Sweet and Lowdown," "In the Meantime, Darling," "Wing and a Prayer."

Shooting are: "Nob Hill," "Dia-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Europe Plans Now to Hold Film Markets

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Problems which will confront the State Department when it undertakes the negotiation of international agreements covering postwar trade in motion pictures were set forth here tonight in a Government report on film markets in Europe, released by Nathan D. Golden, chief of the films section of the Department of Commerce.

Although it covered only eight of the 20-odd countries which comprised pre-war Europe, the report is sufficient to show the concern of European governments with the firm establishment of native film in-

(*Continued on page* 8)

See Altec Entering Field of Television

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—Expansion of Altex Service into television is indicated by the fact that members of its engineering and merchandising staff will remain here next week to discuss the installation and servicing of equipment in the television experimental stations which will locate on the crests of the hills surrounding Hollywood. Others attending Altec's five-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Equipment, No Raw Stock Eased V-E Day

All Raw Stock Curbs to Stay Indefinitely

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Present controls on the manufacture of photographic film and on the consumption of raw stock by the motion picture industry will be kept alive by the War Production Board after the defeat of Germany.

The restrictions on equipment, however, will be lifted as soon as the plans of the Army and Navy to cut-back military production—releasing materials, manpower and equipment—go into effect, under a program which has been worked out by the WPB.

Retention of the film orders, however, will not necessarily mean that motion picture producers will have to continue on present allocations, al-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Film-Play Plan to Drama Guild

The Dramatists Guild of New York will meet during the first week of November to consider the plan of H. William Fitelson, theatrical attorney, permitting an author to sell the film rights to his play prior to production. It will be taken under consideration as an amendment to the Guild's present basic agreement. It

(*Continued on page* 7)

Hazen to Coast to Supervise Films

Joseph Hazen, president of Hal Wallis Productions, left New York for California over the weekend for an indefinite period. With Wallis, Hazen will supervise production of the initial two films to be made by the company for Paramount. "Love Letters," the first, will get underway today and "The Affairs of Susan" will go into production Wednesday.

Regular Television First For Small Theatres Only

Theatre television by direct projection of video and sound images from a combination projector-television receiver onto the theatre screen in a manner similar to that used by the RCA and British Scophony and Baird Systems, looms as an earlier possibility in the postwar for small theatres than for large houses, according to informed engineering authorities here.

It is unlikely that equipment will be available to project images far enough from a projection booth in a large theatre. Present television projection with efficient results runs between 80 and 90 feet, although even then results leave much to be desired.

However, this does not necessarily mean that larger theatres cannot provide any television programs for patrons. They can still use the more expensive and indirect method of taking a television program off a receiver and placing it on film for regular projection. By the use of a high-contrast film, Paramount is understood to be able to develop, fix, wash and dry film and project it within 10 or 11 minutes after taking it off the air. Experimentation with this process, which was used in England and Germany before the war, indicates that the time can be cut down below 10 minutes.

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "Brazil," Republic, and "Bowery to Broadway," Universal, will be found on page 6.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH I. BREEN, head of the Production Code Administration, has arrived in New York from Hollywood for conferences with WILL H. HAYS.

•

ARTHUR LACKS, in charge of sales and distribution of News of the Day for M-G-M, will be installed as commander of the American Legion Post of the 305th Field Artillery, Manhattan, on Nov. 2.

•

SALLY TURNER, associated with Interstate Theatres, Dallas, for the past 15 years, and JACK EDWARD BRADY, chief clerk of a local Selective Service Board, were married in Cincinnati last week.

•

JACK L. WARNER and MRS. WARNER left New York at the weekend for Chicago, where Warner will hold several business conferences. They will return to the coast from Chicago.

•

GEORGE BOWSER, HARRY COX, R. H. MCCULLOUGH and TOM PAIGE, Fox West Coast executives, left the Coast at the weekend for the National Theatres Conferences here.

•

VLADIMIR VETLUGUIN, M-G-M assistant to L. B. MAYER on story material, arrived in New York at the weekend for a two-week stay.

•

STANLEY C. JACQUES, RKO branch manager at Cincinnati, has returned to his desk following an appendicitis operation at the Jewish Hospital there.

•

ROBERT STERLING, executive assistant to HUNT STROMBERG, United Artists producer, arrived in New York from Hollywood yesterday.

•

LEO J. MCCARTHY, general sales manager of PRC Pictures, will arrive in New York today from the Coast.

•

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, MURRAY SILVERSTONE and SAM SHAIN returned to New York from the Coast on Friday.

•

E. W. AARON, M-G-M circuit sales head, left Friday for a stay with his daughter at Holyoke, Mass.

•

IRVING MANDEL, PRC franchise holder in Chicago, is back on the job after a week in bed.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, will leave for Boston today.

•

EDMUND GOULDING, Warner director, left California at the weekend for New York.

•

PANDRO S. BERMAN, M-G-M producer, will arrive from the coast Oct. 29.

•

EDWARD L. ALPERSON left New York at the weekend for California.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THERE is increasing sentiment within and without the industry against permitting V-E Day to become the occasion of, or excuse for a public orgy throughout the nation. Expression is being given this sentiment in the plans of many circuits and exhibitor organizations for V-E Day operations.

It is recognized that theatres cannot by themselves prevent or regulate mob celebrations but, as the centers in which large segments of the public gather daily, they can, by remaining open on V-E Day, cooperate with public officials and civic agenies by appealing for public restraint and suggesting appropriate behavior. If and when crowds become unruly, theatres can offer similar cooperation by closing their doors and denying assemblage to such elements.

This is the operating procedure which many theatres will adopt, or have adopted, for V-E Day. Every effort will be made by many individual theatres to contribute an atmosphere of normalcy and restraint in their immediate neighborhoods or communities by remaining open and inviting audiences to participate in proper thanksgiving that the job at hand is half completed. If crowds become unruly, these theatres are prepared to close on short notice.

•

There would appear to be a great deal of merit in plans of this kind. An open theatre may contribute to good conduct on V-E Day. A closed theatre may contribute to street crowds and resultant public confusion and disorder. But if, regardless of the theatres' efforts, the latter situation prevails, then prompt closings can count out the theatre as an asylum for the mob.

These plans are based on the sound assumption that the most that V-E Day can signify is that one chapter of the war is ended. Thanksgiving, and a rededication of all Americans to the final ending of the war as quickly as possible, is all that the Day need call for. There will remain a long, a difficult and bloody war.

That's how the men fighting the Japs regard V-E Day.

• •

Nothing much is likely to happen for quite some time on the current industry plan to form an export trade association which, under the provisions of the Webb Act will permit companies distributing internationally to act in concert where unfair and discriminatory legislation or regulations are encountered abroad.

The proposal, as this paper reported exclusively 10 days ago, has been turned over to the general counsel of the companies for study after receiving the tentative approval of the company heads. Counsel have held several recent meetings intended to advance the proposal, which now is being turned over to small committees. No date has been set for the next meeting. However, no serious obstacles have been encountered to date and there is no reason to believe the plan will not bear fruit eventually. Nevertheless, no urgency for completing the plan is recognized at this time and the work of the next few months, apart from exploring its varied ramifications, is likely to be devoted largely to shaping up the organization for registry with the Federal Trade Commission when conditions indicate the need for its active existence. That could be quite some time away.

• •

Ralph Austrian began his address to the Society of Motion Picture Engineers here last week with an apology for his not being an engineer. "But," said Ralph, "if Shirley Temple can address the *New York Herald-Tribune* Forum on 'The Responsibility of the Motion Picture,' you fellows should bear with me while I make a few observations on the future of theatre television to you engineers."

They were good speeches, regardless. Ralph's, too.

• •

Social-Hazards-of-the-Future Note. The Associated Press reported from Hanley Falls, Minn., that guests of Oscar Hanson's, who traveled to his home in that vicinity by plane, parking their craft in a nearby field, discovered as they were about to depart that a flock of 140 pigs, ignoring the abundant alfalfa in their pasture, had consumed instead all of the fabric from the fuselage of the plane. The guests returned to their homes by bus.

• •

Now that Sam Goldwyn and companions have sic-ed the S.I.M.P.P. on Crescent Amusement Co., right after their tiff with T. & D. Enterprises in Reno, one is constrained to wonder: "Don't people ever get mad at *affiliated* circuits?

Golden Observes 30 Years in Industry

Edward A. Golden, whose "The Master Race" is currently being released by RKO, is observing his 30th year in the film industry. He started in 1914 as a distributor in New England, handling "Birth of a Nation," "Hearts of the World," "Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," "Scaramouche," and other big productions.

Edward A. Golden

With his recent "Hitler's Children," Golden turned producer.

Hold Services For Isadore Bernstein

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—Industry veterans attended services here Friday for Isadore Bernstein, 68, film pioneer, who died at his home here of a heart attack. Burial was at Beth Olam Cemetery.

Bernstein, who ran away and joined a circus when he was 12, became Universal's general studio manager in 1913. He was instrumental with the late Carl Laemmle in establishing Universal City. In recent years he was production manager for an oil tool company. He is survived by a widow, two sisters, two brothers and a daughter.

Gov't's Schine Trial Will Resume Today

BUFFALO, Oct. 22.—The Government's Schine trial will resume here tomorrow in Federal Court after an adjournment since last Wednesday to permit Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice to go to Washington on commitments in other anti-trust suits. Wright expects to complete the Government case by Thursday or Friday at which time the defendants will start their rebuttal.

Another delay in the case on Nov. 6 and 7 will be forthcoming when the Crescent suit appeals will be heard in Supreme Court, Washington.

Treasury Paves Way For SPG Increase

Word has been received from the Treasury by film companies here that further approval is necessary for the retroactive wage increases for members of the Screen Publicists Guild of New York who are earning $100 a week or more. The War Labor Board has already approved the arbitration award granting increases to all home office publicists.

The way has now been cleared for the companies to start paying retroactive increases to 280 publicists, probably this week.

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NOW is the TIME to play

THE SONG OF BERNADETTE

Every day its box-office story grows more and more sensational...

SENSA

SUBSEQUENT-RUN HOUSES IN CHICAGO REPORT

7 TIMES "CONEY ISLAND" HIGH! BYRD-8 TIM

IT BACK FOR REPEAT ENGAGEMENTS IN 30 H

SENSATIONAL *circuit performance for Loew's, RKO, Warne*
record long-run in Boston (now in 26th wee

THE SONG O

The Picture That Won 5 Aca

NOW IS THE TIME TO PLAY IT! . . . f

TIONAL

TITOL–TWICE "CONEY ISLAND" HIGH! SHERIDAN–

CONEY ISLAND" HIGH! MILWAUKEE BRINGING

ES! ALL THIS AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF

ea, Butterfield, Schine, John Friedl, Fabian, Wilmer & Vincent and many others. Plus all time
playing to capacity). Plus great grosses in all situations, large and small, coast to coast!

BERNADETTE

rds

20th
NTURY-FOX

The company that made "WILSON"

KEEP
SELLING
BONDS!

Filming At a Low Level, 39 Shooting

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—Production remained at a low level last week, as nine features were completed and seven started. Total in work was 39, compared to 41 in the preceding week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Lawless Empire."
Shooting: "Our Wandering Daughters," "Let's Go Steady," "Counterattack."

M-G-M

Started: "Without Love," with Katharine Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Lucille Ball, Kennan Wynn; "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," with Margaret O'Brien, Jackie Jenkins, Edward G. Robinson, James Craig, Frances Gifford.
Shooting: "Hold High the Torch," "Women's Army," "Son of Lassie," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Finished: "Navajo Trails" (formerly "Texas Terror").
Shooting: "John Dillinger."

Paramount

Shooting: "Duffy's Tavern," "Salty O'Rourke," "The Golden Years."

PRC

Finished: "Joe Comes Home" (formerly "You Can't Stop Romance"), "Strange Illusion."
Started: "The Whispering Skull," with Tex Ritter, Dave O'Brien, Guy Wilkerson and Denny Burke; "The Kid Sister," with Judy Clark, Roger Pryor, and Constance Worth.

RKO Radio

Shooting: "The Enchanted Cottage," "West of the Pecos," "Isle of the Dead" (temporarily suspended), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn), "Tarzan and the Amazons" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "A Song for Miss Julie" (Rowland), "The Vampire's Ghost," "Chicago Kid."
Started: "The Phantom Speaks," with Richard Arlen, Lynn Roberts.
Shooting: "A Daring Holiday."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Bon Voyage" (temporarily suspended), "A Royal Scandal" (formerly "Czarina"), "Where Do We Go from Here?" "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," "Hangover Square."

United Artists

Finished: "Delightfully Dangerous" (Rogers).
Started: "Blood on the Sun," (Cagney) with James Cagney, Sylvia Sidney, Wallace Ford, Robert Armstrong, James Bell.
Shooting: "Hold Autumn in Your Hand," (PAC) "It's in the Bag" (Skirball).

Universal

Started: "She Gets Her Man," with Joan Davis, Leon Errol, Vivian Austin and William Gargan.
Shooting: "The Suspect," "Salome—Where She Danced," "Frisco Sal."

Warners

Finished: "Of Human Bondage."
Shooting: "The Big Sleep," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Nobody Lives Forever," "San Antonio."

Reviews

"Brazil"

(*Republic*)

HATS off to a young company with a grand, big show; a smooth, charming, clever and extremely amusing musical that fulfills the familiar box-office dictum of being 'different but not too different.' It gently satirizes romance and song-making and inter-American relations, and yet succeeds in being delightfully romantic, tuneful, and friendly toward Brazil, our sister republic to the South.

The locale and the title of composer Ary Barroso's featured number are both Rio de Janeiro, where the U.S.A. is handsomely represented by Robert Livingston of the consulate and Virginia Bruce, authoress who comes on to devote two full weeks to learning all about Brazil and to living down the scandal caused by her book "Why Marry a Latin?"

The answer to that question is Tito Guizar, whose lilting, disarming performance streaks rainbows of color across this film, which is photographed in plain black and white. He is cast as the nation's greatest tunesmith, temporarily 'in hock' to Edward Everett Horton, agent for a war-closed travel bureau and heir to trouble galore because he has been paid by an American publisher, Richard Lane, for a song his protege can't seem to get around to writing. Horton, pulling fine fun from his fattest role in years, regards Miss Bruce as the worst calamity to hit Brazil since the coffee worm. And with cause, since Guizar has forsaken his piano to show her about the country. But she has in her head the snatch of a standard U.S. tune that finally becomes the boy friend's "Rio" and wins the prize at the big carnival, where all ends well with Roy Rogers making a personal appearance and singing "Hands Across the Border."

Billy Daniels has created and staged some diverting dance spectacles, best of which traces in ballet the romance of coffee from the harvesting of the bean through to what Horton calls the 'draw one' stage. And Veloz and Yolanda are present to whirl out a warm ballroom specialty.

The script, by Frank Gill, Jr., and Laura Kerr, handles neatly a plot ramification that lets Guizar win Miss Bruce by pretending to be a twin brother, who speaks only Portuguese, when he fails to get to first base in English. It also gives Horton a choice yarn about a two-headed cousin who picks up a precarious living posing for book ends.

Credit for the lavish, balanced production goes to Robert North. Joseph Stanley has directed like a skilled Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. Exhibitors will do well to reserve a top spot for "Brazil."

Running time, 91 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

TOM LOY

"Bowery to Broadway"

(*Universal*)

Hollywood, Oct. 22

STANDARD equipment prevails in this, a musical which starts 'back when' on the Bowery and successfully negotiates the ups and downs of show business for a final, resounding success on Broadway. The attraction is pleasant, punctuated with no particular distinctions but practically guaranteed to send the mob out contented.

The recommendations traveling along with "Bowery to Broadway" are several. The gaslight-age along the Bowery is colorful. The songs of the Lillian Russell era are nostalgic. The transition from the vaudeville turns of a long-departed day to the lavish production numbers of the modern musical is managed with believability. In front of the array of numbers down through the years are the principals.

Donald Cook and Jack Oakie tangle their competitive ways on the Bowery, then on 14th Street and finally in Times Square. After tossing each other around for 15 years, they form a partnership and, of course, forge a career in the history of musical comedies such as no one before, or since, has enjoyed. The story has them fight, split up, face inaction and failures until they join forces again and start smashing records anew.

In front of this part of the yarn is the romance of Susanna Foster, singer, and Turhan Bey, pianist-composer. That lands on the rocks, bounces off and into a happy marriage. Cook's romancing with Maria Montez, Continental stage import, has a time of it as well and emerges on the clinch side after she 'angels' his comeback. Rosemary De Camp and Frank McHugh are the hoofers solid on the Bowery but not on Broadway. They concentrate on their daughter, Ann Blyth, who makes the top spot in the comeback show by Cook and Oakie.

It is a happy, sunshiney tale with no twists and nary a turn to set it apart from its countless back-stage predecessors. A tried veteran, the plot stands up as valiantly as might be expected from a crochety old family retainer.

However, it allows extended opportunity for song and dance, and the opportunity was not overlooked. Not to be passed by lightly, however, is the cast. Practically the entire Universal family was worked in by producer John Grant and director Charles Lamont. For marquee and advertising concentration, look 'em over: Maria Montez, Jack Oakie, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Louise Allbritton, Frank McHugh, Ann Blyth, Donald Cook, Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Leo Carrillo, Andy Devine and Evelyn Ankers.

Running time, 95 minutes. "G."* Release date, Nov. 3.

RED KANN.

*"G" denotes general classification.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 22

"DEADLINE," original with a newspaper background, has been purchased by PRC and assigned to Al Herman, who will produce and direct. . . . 20th Century-Fox plans a remake of "The Farmer Takes a Wife" and has placed it on Robert Bassler's schedule. Jeanne Crain will have the feminine lead and the producer hopes that by the time the picture gets under way, Lon McCallister will be out of the Army and able to undertake the male lead.

•

William Perlberg will produce and George Seaton will direct 20th-Century-Fox's color production, "Junior Miss." Peggy Ann Garner has been cast for the lead. . . . Producer Hunt Stromberg has given radio singer John Clark a long-term contract. . . . William Gargan has been signed for an important role in Universal's "She Gets Her Man," which stars Joan Davis. . . . Dick Haymes will be starred in "State Fair" at 20th Century-Fox. Negotiations are being made to borrow Kathryn Grayson from M-G-M to play opposite him. . . . Bruce Bennett has been signed to a term contract by Warners. . . . Lynn Merrick and Ross Hunter, both under contract to Columbia, have been assigned the leads in "A Guy, A Gal and a Pal."

•

July Clark has been signed for the title role of PRC's "The Kid Sister." . . . RKO Radio has lifted options on the acting contracts of Marcy McGuire and Sharyn Moffett. . . . Frances Neal has been signed to a new contract by M-G-M. . . . Reginald Gardiner will have a featured role in "Molly, Bless Her" at 20th Century-Fox.

LeRoy Honored at WB Reception

More than 300 representatives of the press, radio and film industry attended a reception in honor of Mervyn LeRoy at the Sherry-Netherland Hotel here on Friday, with Jack L. Warner, executive producer, as host. LeRoy, who recently formed his own producing unit, Arrowhead Productions, will rejoin Warners about Jan. 1 as a producer.

Harry Warner, president of Warner Bros.; Major Albert Warner, vice-president, and Charles Einfeld, director of advertising-publicity who is at present in New York, also were on hand.

20th Executives At 'Wilson' in Chicago

CHICAGO, Oct. 22.—Midwest premiere of 20th Century-Fox' 'Wilson' was held Friday at the Apollo. Premiere arrangements were handled by Irving Zeliner, Tommy Thompson, Fred Joyce, Virginia Seguin, Arnold Stoltz and Earl Wingart of the 20th-Fox staff.

Among those who attended were Carol Landis, Roddy McDowall, Mary Anderson, Gail Robbins, John Payne, George Jessel and local civic and industry officials.

Union College Gives Griffis LLD Degree

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Oct. 22.—Stanton Griffis, chairman of the Paramount executive committee, on leave, was today granted, in absentia, the honorary degree of LL.D. by Union College here at the Fall commencement. Paramount News will incorporate the event in its next release.

Griffis, now serving as Commissioner for the Red Cross in the Pacific area, in Honolulu, was also chief of the motion picture bureau of the domestic branch of the Office of War Information.

The following citation, in part, for Griffis was read by Union's president, Dixon Fox, in awarding him the honorary degree:

"Stanton Griffis — administrator—controlling leader of one of the greatest motion picture enterprises, and exemplar of its public spirit; chairman of boards directing policies of such differing institutions as the Madison Square Garden and New York City's most famous bookstore; and by appointment of the President of the United States, organizing and carrying forward the whole national program of war-instruction on the screen."

Film-Play Plan To Drama Guild

(Continued from page 1)

is reported that the Guild Council is favorably disposed to the plan.

Fitelson's plan calls for a film company to advance an initial $25,000; changes the present code of acquisition so that film rights are not predicated on financing of all or part of a play; the play producer need not close his play if it continues to lose at the box-office; a five per cent out-of-town royalty is to be paid by a film company before the New York run and 10 per cent on an out-of-town run thereafter; no royalties are to be paid for the first 21 performances, after which, however, a film company owning a play is to pay 15 per cent of the gross to the dramatist; bonus payments of $5,000 for the first 100 performances, $15,000 for the first 200 performances, $30,000 for the first 300 performances and $50,000 for the first 450 performances are to be paid, and a ceiling of $250,000 of advance money, bonuses and royalties is to be placed on each production.

See Altec Entering Field of Television

(Continued from page 1)

day session, terminated Friday, were enroute home over the weekend.

President G. L. Carrington closed the meetings predicting expanded technical horizons. "When wartime restrictions are removed, it will be possible for manufacturers and theatre supply dealers to offer equipment to theatres which, coupled with studio improvements, will bring a realization to the screen which is not approachable today," he said.

District and branch managers will conduct local meetings in their various territories in the near future.

Equipment But Not Raw Stock Eased V-E Day

(Continued from page 1)

though when and what additional supplies can be made available will depend entirely upon the needs of the Army and Navy in the Pacific.

The industry was given its first view of the Post-European war picture last week, when members of the photographic film industry advisory committee, meeting with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the photographic section, and other WPB officials, were told by Army and Navy representatives that military requirements for film will not decline and may increase after the defeat of Germany when operations in the Pacific theatre of war are intensified and spread.

This situation, they said, will necessitate the retention of conservation order L-233, which has enabled the Armed Forces, through the WPB, to arrange their procurement of film in an orderly fashion.

Retain Film Regulations

A review of the several hundred control orders now in effect, by a WPB committee appointed for the purpose, resulted in recommendations that all regulations covering materials that will be freed by Army and Navy plans to cut-back production after V-Day should be dropped, but that certain orders, including the two film regulations, should be retained so that control might be maintained over certain products of strategic importance.

It was explained by Army representatives that while the end of the fighting in Europe will mean the Air Force is out of combat duty in that area, it will be necessary to keep air crews in training and for this purpose "gun-film" will be used instead of bullets.

At the same time, the transfer of large military forces to the Pacific, the number of smaller arenas into which that vast theatre of operations will be split and the stepped-up activities which are planned, will tend to increase the demand for film.

It is admitted, however, that there is considerable uncertainty as to what the actual demand will be for the Pacific war and how beneficial to the film manufacturing plants may be the release of labor from war factories where production is cut back. That the latter will enable the film plans to change over from the present two 11-hour shifts to three eight-hour shifts, with a later consequent increase in output, is the general expectation, and the supply of film may be further expanded by production from plants in liberated Europe which may be brought back into operation.

Accordingly, it is said, retention of the raw stock controls will not necessarily mean that the producers will have to remain on present short raw stock rations and since film is a perishable product, it is expected that any supply in excess of actual military requirements will be quickly released by WPB for the industry.

Chemicals Available

Last week's meeting of the advisory committee developed that film manufacturers have encountered no particular difficulty in obtaining chemicals except camphor, supplies of which have been so limited that they have had to rely on stocks accumulated before imports were cut off. The principal source of camphor is an island which last week bulked large in the war news—Formosa.

As a result of representations of the military and a review of the supply and materials situation by Burrows and WPB experts, who explained the Government's V-E Day program, the committee unanimously recommended that its conservation order, L-233, be retained after the end of the war in Europe. It also recommended that it be retained in active status so long as the WPB remains in existence, so that it may assist in the prompt solution of any problems that may arise.

Install Officers of Paramount Club

Officers of the Paramount Pep Club, including J. L. Brown, president; Richard O'Connell, vice-president; Louis Leffler, treasurer; and Rose Mirell, secretary, were installed at a dinner-dance at the Hotel Astor here at the weekend, with more than 800 members and guests attending. A new board of governors, comprised of G. Knox Haddow, George Weltner, David Cassidy, Harriet Miller and Al Sicignano, were also installed.

Paramount executives and trade press editors, also attended.

Rites for Mrs. O'Connell

CHICAGO, Oct. 22.—Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Mrs. John O'Connell, 76, mother-in-law of James Coston, Warner Theatres zone manager here. Mrs. O'Connell, who died Friday at German Deaconess hospital, is survived by her husband, retired Warner manager, and two sons, William, manager o the Highland Theatre, and Harry of Warner's service department.

Lawyers Mapping Decree Strategy

Counsel for the five consent decree companies met here at the weekend to discuss anticipated preparations to be made when the Department of Justice moves in U. S. Federal Court here to file its petition for a hearing on a revised consent decree.

Maude Rennie Dies

HOLLYWOOD Oct. 22.—Funeral services were held here yesterday for Maude Lee Rennie, 73, co-owner of Rennie Theatres of San Fernando, who died Thursday. She is survived by a son John Rennie, Jr., who operates the theatres, and a daughter, Mrs. Alph Richards.

Services for Spiegel

CHICAGO, Oct. 22.—Private funeral services were held here Friday at the Piser Chapel for Sidney M. Spiegel, Jr., 40, vice-president and treasurer of Essaness Theatres, who died Friday after a long illness. Essaness offices closed Friday at one p.m. in tribute to Spiegel. Surviving are his widow and two sisters.

'Dimes' Report Book Lauds Exhibitors' Record Collection

(Continued from page 1)

an excerpt from the report of Nicholas M. Schenck, drive chairman, to President Roosevelt. The excerpt reads: "May I point out that it was only through the hard work of thousands of theatre owners, managers and their staffs that the drive could have been such an outstanding success. To them should go the major credit."

The book indicates that theatres with a total of nearly 9,000,000 seats participated in the drive. Figuring on a basis of 11,700,000 seats in the USA (including Alaska), the committee reports that the collections averaged 39.8 cents per seat. Figured on seats that actually participated, this figure would be 54 cents per seat. It is estimated that there were over 55,000,000 individual donations and that they averaged well under 10 cents.

42.8% of Total

The tabulations also show the per capita for each state, both for theatre collections and the over-all contributions to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. It is pointed out that the motion picture drive piled up 42.8 per cent of the total.

In the book is President Roosevelt's statement of appreciation for the industry's work on the drive. Drive chairman Nicholas M. Schenck, in his statement on behalf of the national committee, points out, among other things, how economically the drive was conducted, at a cost of 2.086 per cent of the $4,667,520.56 total.

The District of Columbia leads in the "per seat" average—$1.54 per seat. Delaware is second with 81.4 cents. Maryland is third with 58 cents. The five leading states in total collections out of the $4,667,000 are: New York ($703,380); California ($477,129); Pennsylvania ($373,369); Illinois ($251,131); Ohio ($231,241).

The book, which was compiled by Oscar A. Doob, of the executive committee, and Ernest Emerling, publicity director of the drive, winds up with the slogan: "A greater drive . . . in '45!"

20th Has 20 of 27 Working: Moskowitz

(Continued from page 1)

mond Horseshoe," "Hangover Square," "Where Do We Go from Here?", "Czarina" and "Bon Voyage." In preparation are: "Bell for Adano," "The Dolly Sisters," a musical version of "State Fair," "Dragonwyck," "Junior Miss," "Leave Her to Heaven" and "Cluny Brown."

Questioned about the company's plans for production of the late Wendell Willkie's "One World," previously announced by Darryl F. Zanuck, Moskowitz stated that as far as he knew the company stands on Zanuck's disclosure to MOTION PICTURE DAILY of May 8 that the book would go into production "sometime in the Fall."

Jaeger Joins Ross

Ross Federal Service announced at the weekend the appointment of Arthur Jaeger, former U. S. Marshal in the New York district, to the executive staff of the company.

Rank Is After 50% Interest In Odeon's 80

(Continued from page 1)

Rank's Odeon Theatres in Great Britain, with which Odeon of Canada is unrelated. The purpose of his present visit here, to set a deal, has been widely heralded from London. On a previous visit last Summer he spent several weeks surveying the the Canadian theatre situation on a trip which took him from one end of Canada to the other, providing him with a first-hand opportunity to study operations of the Odeon circuit, and other circuit interests.

Although there has been no official admission of negotiations with Rank in Canadian theatre circuit circles, it has been indicated that Rank would have to give up something more than cold cash to induce Odeon or other circuit heads to give up part of their control in view of their satisfactory financial position. Rank has that additional bargaining influence in the films he has available and those which he plans to produce for the international market.

Nathanson has already acquired a selected group of Rank's films for Canadian distribution through his Empire-Universal Films.

Nathanson is understood to have postwar expansion plans for his Odeon circuit, and although it is said that he does not require outside capital for the expansion, it is admitted in trade circles that they can be much more ambitious with the additional capital which Rank could provide, eventually enabling Odeon to assume a more dominant position beside Famous Players Canadian which now operates over 190 theatres in the Dominion.

Deny Existence of New Detroit Dispute

DETROIT, Oct. 22.—Theatre officials here deny there is any new local labor dispute. Deliveries of advertising paper for all service companies have not been made now by AFL delivery employees for nearly a month in Michigan. Theatre operators have had to pick up their own material or make other arrangements for obtaining it.

The dispute has had no new flare-up—contrary to reports that deliveries of National Screen Service had been tied up Thursday by the teamster union's dispute. National Screen has no trucks of its own and is not directly involved in the dispute, but, like all other advertising distributors, has lost out in service.

The trouble stems from the demand of the AFL teamster's union that film and advertising deliveries be made separately. These demands resulted in a one-day tie-up of film deliveries two weeks ago.

Revere, Wallace on SAG

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—Anne Revere and Morgan Wallace have been named to the board of directors of the Screen Actors Guild, replacing Heather Angel and Cary Grant, resigned.

U.S. Cites Foreign Gov't Concern Over Our Lead

(Continued from page 1)

dustries by means ranging from quota systems limiting the number of foreign films imported, as in England, to total control of foreign trade, as in Russia.

In the United Kingdom, where the annual theatre attendance is estimated at 1,300,000,000 and box office receipts at approximately $400,000,000, the report indicated that quota requirements have not materially affected American film companies, whose pictures last year accounted for more than 75 per cent of the aggregate footage exhibited.

In Sweden, studies of a government committee investigating domestic film production resulted in suggestions, not yet acted upon, that new regulations might have to be adopted after the war, when the domestic industry may be faced with increased foreign film competition.

Also disclosed were details of the efforts of Finnish producers and importer-distributors of European films to bar American pictures from the market, already controlled by a license system limiting them to 75 features a year, which resulted in closing the doors to them entirely in 1943.

29,728 Houses Covered

The report on Europe covered markets with a total of 29,728 theatres having a seating capacity of 18,494,232, but these figures include Soviet Russia where, while the few American pictures shown are popular, the film business is under the firm control of the government and American companies can sell their product only to the New York representative of the Soviet film committee. The committee's budget for this year calls for 20 foreign features, of which 12 will probably be American.

It is in Spain, however, that American companies face their most difficut handicaps, and the concern with which this situation is viewed was evidenced by the devotion of 30 of the 82-page European survey to that one country.

In the past, Golden recalled, American exporters are said to have received only about two per cent of their foreign revenue from Spain, although its 26,000,000 inhabitants, if trade were unrestricted, would be capable of a much higher return. However, since the end of the civil war in 1939, American pictures have met with many new obstacles and the situation finally became so serious that one company liquidated its Spanish branch and the Spanish organizations of other distributors, without exception, have had to retrench.

The Spanish government has taken a strong nationalistic position on films, it is said, and is attempting, by a number of devices, to limit their importation, it was shown. The lack of foreign exchange has been used to this end and as an excuse to attempt to make imported pictures the subject of barter deals against Spanish productions, according to the report.

"The means to implement this increasingly exclusive policy have been provided by a system of import quotas and permits, exchange control, dubbing and other taxes, censorship, newsreel monopoly and even syndicalism," the report charged. "A new law dated May 18, 1943, tightens previously existing import regulations by requiring that a Spanish film of good quality be actually completed, passed upon and graded by the authorities before import permits may be issued to its sponsors."

Spanish production, however, has not proved sufficient to meet local demand and in quality is far behind that of American pictures and below that even of other European countries. Foreign films, accordingly, have continued to be imported despite all the obstacles devised by the Government, and foreign newsreels continued to operate in Spain until an absolute ban was placed on them.

Quality Advantage

"Against this succession of difficulties and discouragements, the one great advantage of the American supplier is the quality of his product," Golden said. "Because of this, even though the present supply of American films is limited, Spanish audiences are remaining faithful to their favorites in the United States. Moreover, Spanish exhibitors are requesting more American pictures, Spanish distributors are seeking to purchase them, and speculators even in contravention of the existing Spanish regulations are scouring neutral Europe to find American films in the hope of devising ways and means of getting them to Spain's screens.

"But the direct contact between American producer and Spanish distributor has been in most cases rendered more remote and in many instances broken, due to the Spanish controls. Thus, even if Spanish importer-producers, or speculators profiting by their needs, have managed to break through the onerous production requirements and the uncertainties surrounding the granting of permits and the exchange regulations, it is nonetheless evident that the delay, the expense, the maneuvering for position and the unpredictable returns throughout the whole business tend to discourage American interests."

'Velvet' to Music Hall

For the third successive year, an M-G-M picture will play Radio City Music Hall here Christmas week. The picture this year is "National Velvet," booked to start Dec. 14. The next two M-G-M films at the Capitol, New York will be "Thirty Seconds Over Tokio," booked Nov. 16 and "Marriage is a Private Affair," on Nov. 26. "Meet Me in St. Louis" will probably follow "Kismet" at the Astor. A new house for "American Romance" is being sought, as that film originally was supposed to open at the Astor.

Youngstein Married

Max Youngstein, coordinator of publicity and advertising for the industry's Sixth War Loan, was honored with a reception by the national Sixth War Loan Committee on Friday, prior to his marriage on Saturday to Sgt. Mary Carnaghi, of the Wacs, who was formerly with 20th Century-Fox. Youngstein was given the first war bond credited to the forthcoming industry drive. The reception was held at the Hotel Astor, New York, and War Bond pledges of $76,575 were received.

Million a Seat for Garden Bond Rally Here on Nov. 20th

(Continued from page 1)

ed. Tickets will be obtained only by purchasing a bond in advance.

Arrangements for the programs were completed on Friday by Ted Lloyd, chairman of the radio division, with Max A. Cohen, chairman of special events. All entertainers on the air will make announcements concerning the drive. The show will begin at six o'clock.

600 Assured for 6th Loan Opening Rally

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—An attendance of 600 exhibitors is assured for the first of the industry's Sixth War Loan pre-campaign luncheons at the Ambassador Hotel here tomorrow, declares Southern California exhibitor chairman Gus Metzger.

Arriving over the weekend to attend the rally were Harry Brandt, national industry chairman; W. F. Crockett, vice-chairman; Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman; John Hertz, Jr., publicity director; S. H. Fabian, honorary chairman, and Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee. Following tomorrow's meeting, the group will go to San Francisco for the next in the series.

Kingsberg Calls Joint Meet for Wednesday

On Wednesday morning Malcolm Kingsberg will hold a joint meeting of his Sixth War Loan committees for the New York area at the RKO home office here.

Besides the general executive committee, borough and county chairmen and the publicity committee, Kingsberg has invited Fred Gehle, New York state director for the War Finance Committee and members of his staff.

'Master Race' Is Set For Boston Opening

BOSTON, Oct. 22.—RKO's "The Master Race," produced by Edward A. Golden, will open at the RKO Palace here Thursday in a 130-theatre day-and-date premiere in the New England, Buffalo and Albany territories.

Due here this week are members of the film's cast, including Nancy Gates, Eric Feldary, Jason Robards, Ghislaine Perreau, and director Herbert Biberman, and RKO exploitation chief Terry Turner. The troupe has been in Dallas where the film opened recently. At the Dallas premiere were Ned E. Depinet, Nat Levy, Robert Mochfie and Edward A. and Robert Golden.

Storm Destroys 2 Cuban Theatres

Three of the principal theatres in Havana were forced to close for repair of damage sustained last week as a result of the hurricane which swept across Cuba. Two suburban theatres were completely destroyed.

Numerous other theatres which were seriously damaged by the storm will require from ten to 15 days to complete repairs, located in Havana and the interior.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 79 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1944 | TEN CENTS

5-Film Buying Aids Owners, Skouras Says

Declares Coast Grosses Are Up 10-15 Percent

Buying product in groups of five has helped exhibitors and is superior to the former practice of buying an entire season's product at one time, in the opinion of Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, who is here from the Coast to conduct a three-day meeting of National executives and divisional managers. Small-group buying has increased the quality of product, he explained.

Charles Skouras

The meeting, which will start next

(Continued on page 3)

Rank Plans U. S. Visit in February

J. Arthur Rank will arrive in New York from London some time in February to pay his first visit to the American industry on the home grounds, if nothing occurs in the meantime to upset his present plans, it was learned here yesterday.

Rank has advised British industry associates and some of his acquaintances here that he is making definite

(Continued on page 3)

Riskin to Paris for Production Talks

Robert Riskin, chief of the Office of War Information's overseas film bureau, has left New York for London and Paris to discuss with officials of the British and French ministries of information possible joint production of documentaries. He will also confer with U. S. officials overseas on production of OWI documentaries, it was reported yesterday.

While he is abroad, Riskin will

(Continued on page 3)

Depinet Calls for WAC in Postwar

Los Angeles, Oct. 23.—Ned E. Depinet, chairman of the War Activities Committee's distributor division, today made a plea before Southern California exhibitors at a Sixth War Loan kickoff rally to perpetuate the WAC machinery revamped for the postwar period.

"It's about the best thing that has developed in 35 years in the industry and should not be abandoned," he said.

12 More Bond Meetings Set

The War Activities Committee here yesterday revealed details of the remaining 12 of 19 key city meetings for the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan drive. The first seven meetings are being held this week in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Salt Lake, Seattle, Omaha and Kansas City.

The Chicago meeting will be held in the Stevens Hotel Oct. 30 with exhibitor state chairmen Ed Silverman, Ed Zorn, Don Rossiter and Harold Fitzgerald heading the local delegation and the national committee being represented by Ted R. Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department; Harry Brandt, William F. Crockett, Ned E. Depinet, John Hertz, Jr., Capt. Ray Wild, Jack Kirsch and Nathan Yamins.

A Cleveland meeting will be held at the Statler Hotel there Oct. 31

(Continued on page 3)

Columbia Net $2,005,834

Columbia Pictures' gross earnings for the year ended June 30, were $6,235,459, and after deducting taxes amounting to $4,229,625, the net was $2,005,834, or $4.89 per share of common stock.

For the prior year, which ended June 30, 1943, gross earnings were $5,481,842 and, after taxes of $3,679,-562, the net was $1,802,279, or $4.36 per common share.

The company reported current assets of $21,052,386 and current liabilities of $5,690,146, leaving working capital of approximately $15,362,000.

U.S. Schine Case to Rest Tomorrow

BUFFALO, Oct. 23. — The Schine anti-trust trial was resumed here this afternoon but will face another brief postponement Thursday, when Federal Judge John Knight will attend the marriage of his daughter, Jane, in Arcade.

Although Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice declared in chambers this morning that the Government will have completed its case against Schine by Wednesday afternoon, there was skepticism on the part of trial observers that this will be possible. The trial will be resumed Friday, but it is doubted that Schine will begin its defense before some time next week.

Government witnesses today were Michael Boumansour, Malone realtor and former operator of the Plaza Theatre there; Matthew Weber, Salamanca newspaper publisher, and

(Continued on page 3)

U.S. Completes Equipment Easing Plans

W P B Formally Sets 'V-E-Day' Revocation

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Plans for the revocation of photographic equipment order No. L-267, following the defeat of Germany, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY today, were announced here tonight by the War Production Board.

Consideration is being given to the elimination from the order of all restrictions on the delivery of photographic and projection equipment, accessories and parts for other than preferred orders, the purpose of the restrictions to assure the filling of rated orders before non-rated orders being served by priorities regulation No. 1.

Amendment and eventual elimination of the order was recommended last week by the WPB Photographic

(Continued on page 3)

SIMPP Intervention Is Denied by Court

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—The Supreme Court today denied an application of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers to intervene in the Crescent Amusement trust case pending on appeal before that court. The application to intervene on the side of the Government had been filed 10 days ago for SIMPP by Morris L. Ernst, after the defend-

(Continued on page 3)

Arthur Suit This Week in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 23.—An injunction suit will be filed in Federal District Court here this week on behalf of Harry C. Arthur, Jr., and five subsidiary corporations controlling four first-run and 27 neighborhood theatres in St. Louis, according to an announcement from Russell Hardy, attorney for Arthur.

The suit will ask that the Department of Justice be restrained from

(Continued on page 3)

WPB Will Lift Restrictions on Freon for Theatres in Spring

Washington, Oct. 23.—All restrictions on the use of freon gas for theatre cooling will be removed next Spring when a supply adequate to meet all needs, both military and civilian, is expected to be available, it was disclosed at the War Production Board here today.

Although the freon supply has been short for some weeks as a result of a lack of hydrofluoric acid, additional supplies of that basic material are now coming in, and it is expected that production of the refrigerant will run to about 12,000,000 pounds this quarter. This will be about 4,500,000 pounds less than programmed, but by February enough acid is expected from two new plants now under construction to keep all the freon plants operating at capacity. When this point is reached, it was said, there will be enough freon produced monthly, barring totally unforeseen setbacks, to permit the elimination of all retrictions on the use of the gas for any purpose.

Personal Mention

ARTHUR MAYER will leave New York today, en route to his Red Cross deputy commissioner's post in the Pacific area.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, executive assistant and assistant general sales manager to JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic president, left New York yesterday for a Western tour.

•

SIMON S. SHIFFRIN, head of the motion picture division of the Ministry of Information of Free France, arrived in New York by plane from Europe yesterday.

•

HARRY NOVAK, Warners' Argentina manager, has arrived in New York from the Coast studio and will leave for South America in a week.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, assistant exploitation manager of 20th Century-Fox, arrived in New York yesterday from Chicago by plane.

•

WILLIAM BISHOP, Western exploitation representative of M-G-M, arrived in New York yesterday from Chicago.

•

M. A. SILVER, zone manager for Warner Theatres in Pittsburgh, and HARRY FEINSTEIN, his assistant, will arrive in New York today.

•

R. M. GILLHAM, Paramount advertising and publicity director, returned to New York yesterday from Hollywood.

•

DON MERSEREAU of *Film Daily* will leave for the Coast today for a two weeks visit.

•

MERVYN LEROY, director, and FRANK ROSS, producer, are en route to Hollywood.

•

HERBERT J. BIBERMAN, director, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

LEON FROMKESS, PRC president, will arrive in New York today from the Coast.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal's Southern and Canadian sales manager, has left for Nashville.

•

DAVE BADER, 20th Century-Fox publicist, left Cleveland yesterday en route to New York.

•

JAMES R. GRAINER, Republic president and general sales manager, left for Chicago yesterday.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres executive, will leave New York tonight for Chicago.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, returned to New York yesterday from Charlotte.

•

HARRY M. WARNER is en route to the Coast from New York.

British Film Units Same as in Prewar

The film activities of the British Government are likely to continue in the postwar on approximately the same scale as they previously existed under the Empire Marketing Board and the General Post Office film units in the prewar period. George Archibald, British Ministry of Information controller of films, said here yesterday.

"The type of documentary film subjects which will be made under BMOI supervision after victory in Europe," Archibald said, "will probably deal with rehousing, rehabilitation, reconversion and the changing trends in British life." Official Government films will be made in the postwar by the Crown Film unit which is presently making documentaries.

BMOI is preparing a program of some 20 reorientation films for showing in the Pacific and Far Eastern theatres of the war when war is over in Europe, Archibald said.

Archibald expects to join the J. Arthur Rank British organization when his activities end with the BMOI.

Theatrical Rally For Roosevelt

The Theatrical and Motion Picture Committee for Roosevelt, Truman and Wagner announced here yesterday that a luncheon-rally will be held Monday noon in the Hotel Astor. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Senator Robert F. Wagner and others will address the rally.

Louis Nizer, chairman of the committee, reports that John Golden is heading the theatrical division and that amongst others, the following executives and stars have joined the committee: Barney Balaban, Irving Berlin, Charles Boyer, Harry Brandt, Eddie Cantor, George Cukor, Bette Davis, Howard Dietz, Eddie Dowling, Jesse L. Lasky, Paul Muni, Luise Rainer, Samuel Rinzler, Fred J. Schwartz, Michael Todd, Major Albert Warner, Harry M. Warner, Margaret Webster.

SPG Votes Support Of Writers' Plan

The Eastern Screen Publicists Guild reported here yesterday that it has voted to sponsor the plan of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization, "giving special recognition to films which are outstanding examples of the blending of the best entertainment elements with an important idea."

The SPG will appoint a special committee to co-operate with the Hollywood writers.

The first picture selected by the Hollywood writers, representing seven writing guilds, is Lester Cowan's "Tomorrow, the World!"

Screen 'Jammin' Blues'

A special press screening of the one-reel subject, "Jammin' the Blues," filmed by *Life* photographer Gjon Mili for Warners, was held last night at a reception at Mili's studio here.

Bennett Funeral Today, Conn. Burial

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 23.—The funeral of Richard Bennett, veteran film star who died at Good Samaritan hospital here yesterday, will be held today in the All Saints Episcopal Church, Beverly Hills, with Dr. Herbert Smith, officiating. Interment will be in Old Lyme, Conn.

Bennett, father of Joan, Constance and Barbara, born in Indiana in 1872, was associated with Charles Frohman in producing plays from 1896 to 1906. His first film was "Damaged Goods" in 1913. He went to Hollywood as a director in 1921 but left and did not return until sound pictures started. He appeared in "The Home Towners," one of the first sound productions, and then in "Bought," with his daughter Constance.

Charles E. Blaney, 78, Film Veteran, Dies

NORWALK, Conn., Oct. 23.—Charles E. Blaney, 78, one time play producer, writer and actor, who later became owner of several theatres bearing his name in Baltimore, Newark, Philadelphia, Brooklyn and New Orleans, died over the weekend at Norwalk Hospital.

Blaney, once associated with the Stair and Havlin circuit, operating nationally; built the Cecil Spooner Theatre, now Loew's Spooner, in the Bronx, N. Y. Survivors include his widow, two daughters and two sons, one of whom is H. Clay Blaney, producer of "Meet a Body" which opened at the Forrest Theatre last week, and a brother, Harry Blaney, in Hollywood.

Goetz Will Spend $225,000 on 'Woman'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23. — William Goetz, president of International Pictures, has appropriated $225,000 for the advertising and exploitation of "The Woman in the Window." Buchanan and Co. will handle the national advertising, which will include trade papers, magazines, fan publications and co-operative newspaper ads in key cities.

David Loew Will Disband His PAC

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—David L. Loew, president of Producing Artists Corp., has purchased the interests of Boris Morros in that company and in Loew-Hakim, Inc., and will shortly acquire also the interest held by Arthur L. Lyons. Thereafter he will disband the corporation following completion of "Hold Autumn in Your Hand," which is now in production.

Bomb in Theatre

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—A crude bomb, which would have burned but not exploded, was found in the Wicker Park Theatre today a few minutes before the afternoon show was to begin.

NEW YORK THEATRES

The Season's Surprise Hit!
"MY PAL, WOLF"
with
SHARYN MOFFETT
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THE NEW MARCH OF TIME

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ON SCREEN
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'THE STORY OF Dr. WASSELL'
IN PERSON
HARRY COOL
BUCK & BUBBLES
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"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay"
starring
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with Charlie Ruggles - Dorothy Gish
IN PERSON—FRANK SINATRA
plus Eileen Barton
RAYMOND PAIGE and his orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

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FIBBER McGEE AND MOLLY
"HEAVENLY DAYS"
EXTRA!
"This Is America" Series "Navy Yard"

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Five-Film Buying Is Superior: Skouras

(Continued from page 1)

Friday or Monday, depending on when all managers arrive, will be devoted to a discussion of new theatre construction, television and expansion by National Theatres in the direction of South America.

Gross business on the West Coast is up from ten to 15 per cent over last year, Skouras stated, despite stable theatre admission prices. Better product from all companies is responsible for the increase, he said. He expects business to maintain its present pace.

National Theatres' executives who will attend the conference from the West include: Frank Newman, George Bowser, B. V. Sturdivant, Harry Cox, Frank (Rick) Ricketson, Jr., Elmer C. Rhoden, Harold Fitzgerald and Russell H. McCullough. Dan Michalove and Sumner Gambee will attend from the home office. Ricketson and Sturdivant will also scout for talent for the Denver and San Francisco Opera companies while in the East.

Skouras will remain here for several weeks.

SIMPP Intervention Is Denied by Court

(Continued from page 1)

ants had refused to give their consent to the filing of the brief as an *amicus curae*.

The arguments on the appeal will probably be heard the week of Nov. 6, since the court is recessing until that period. In SIMPP's application to intervene, Ernst told the court that in the trial of the case, the Government placed emphasis upon the effect of the defendants' practices on independent exhibitor competition, "but the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers believes that the defendants' practices were equally fraught with peril to independent producers.

Riskin to Paris for Production Talks

(Continued from page 1)

also be available for consultation on the mechanics of turning over operation of French distribution to U. S. film companies. He will also inspect the proposal advanced by the MOI for combination of the United Newsreel, issued by the OWI, with MOI's Olympic Newsreel, into a single United Nations Newsreel.

Reginald Armour, recently named by OWI to an overseas film distribution abroad, is expected to follow Riskin shortly, possibly this week.

European Managers To Ask Passports

With announcement yesterday that Allied Nations have accorded the De Gaulle administration recognition as the provisional government of France, coupled with division of the country into civilian and military zones, prospects for the return of European managers of U. S. distributors heightened considerably.

The U. S. State Department announced yesterday that it would now accept applications for passports to France for those businessmen whose presence there would contribute to the war effort.

Twelve More Sixth War Loan Meetings Are Set

(Continued from page 1)

with exhibitor state chairman Charles Raymond heading the local exhibitors. Others will be held at Detroit, Nov. 1, at the Book-Cadillac Hotel with exhibitor state chairman Ray Branch; state chairman C. J. Latta will head the Buffalo meeting, at the Statler Hotel, Nov. 2; Lew Hensler, Sol Hyman, Don Rossiter will be at the helm at the Louisville meeting at the Kentucky Hotel, Nov. 2; M. A. Silver and Sol Hyman at the Pittsburgh meeting at the William Penn Hotel, Nov. 3; Warren Irwin, J. H. Thompson, J. L. Cartwright, John Q. Adams, Phil Isley, E. W. Street, Kermit Stengal, R. M. Kennedy, Claude Mundo and E. V. Richards at the Charlotte meeting, at the Charlotte Hotel, Nov. 13; Harry Shaw and Martin Toohey at Hartford, at the Bond Hotel, Nov. 9; Sam Pinanski, Ed Fahey, Connie Russell and Frank Vennett at Boston's Hotel Statler, Nov. 10; I. Epstein, A. Defiore and Ben Fertel at Philadelphia's Warwick Hotel, Nov. 13; Frank Durkee, Abe Lichtman and M. G. Thalheimer at Baltimore's Belvedere Hotel, Nov. 14; and Malcolm Kingsberg, Harry Lowenstein and Frank Damis at New York City's Astor Hotel, Nov. 17.

So. California Accepts 500,000 Sales Goal

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 23.—A 500,000 individual bond sales goal, or 50,000 more than the previous drive quota, was accepted by 650 Southern California exhibitors at the Sixth War Loan kickoff meeting at the Ambassador Hotel here today.

Gus Metzger, territorial chairman, presided. Speakers included Harry Brandt, W. F. Crockett, Leo Wolcott, Ned E. Depinet, John Hertz, Jr., Hugh Bruen and George Topper, the latter of Fox West Coast Theatres.

The speakers outlined the campaign highlights, including Jennifer Jones in one trailer and Eddie Bracken in another. The first national broadcast from Madison Square Garden November 20 will stress the local theatre as issuing agent. Film stars will plug the same angle in the top 15 national radio shows.

Hertz said overall plans now indicate that every consumer in the nation will be reached a minimum of five times apiece. Additionally, Admiral Nimitz, the Marine Corps and Tyrone Power each will make a news bulletin to be attached to newsreels. It was announced that the Treasury Department will credit all sales in theatres from Nov. 1 through Dec. 31 to the issuing theatres. Two hundred fifty bond premieres, now indicated, would represent an unprecedented new high.

Other speakers were Robert H. Moulton and Capt. Raymond W. Wild for the Treasury. Brandt divulged that all members of the War Activities Committee's theatre division will be honored with sterling silver medals signifying their war efforts, probably ready for distribution before the sixth drive ends. Fabian will join the national committee in Cleveland and Francis S. Harmon in Chicago.

Arthur Suit This Week in St. Louis

(Continued from page 1)

proceeding with modification of the consent decree, application for which was filed by the U. S. in New York Federal District Court on Aug. 7. Allegations to be raised here are substantially the same as those set out in New York last Thursday, when Hardy filed for Arthur a note of issue asking leave to intervene in the Government's action.

The St. Louis suit will also ask dismissal of the hearing set for Nov. 18 by Harry G. Erbs, local arbitrator, in the clearance case brought by Albert Rosecan of the Princess Theatre against several of Arthur's St. Louis Amusement Co. houses.

Hardy said the suit will be filed here immediately following completion of the Regional Labor Board hearing in the dispute between the IATSE Stagehands Local No. 6 and St. Louis exhibitors over the number of stagehands to be employed in theatres.

Twelve 'Dittys' from Morey, Sutherland

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Larry Morey and John Sutherland, co-producers of the "Daffy Dittys" series of "dimensional animation cartoons," of which "The Cross-Eyed Bull" is the first, will make 12 for United Artists release, at the rate of one a month. "The Flying Jeep" will be the second and "The Lady Said No" the third.

U.S. Schine Case to Rest Tomorrow

(Continued from page 1)

Reade, Clark, Perry newspaper man.

Boumansour testified as to events preceding acquisition of the lease on the Plaza by Schine in 1929 and his subsequent employment by Schine for two years as manager of the Malone Theatre. He identified agreements and leases made with Schine, one of which contained a clause to the effect that Boumansour not engage in the theatre business in opposition to Schine for the duration of the lease.

Exhibitors Urged to Fight Tax Proposal

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 23.—Southern California exhibitors today were urged to organize against the enactment of "Proposition No. 11," which was described as meaning an additional tax ranging from three to five per cent on all avenues of income and providing for filing separate income tax statements monthly.

A representative of "The Citizens Committee to Vote 'No' on Proposition 11" made the plea at a bond rally.

Zenith Expands in Video

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—Zenith Radio Corp. here has filed an application with the FCC in Washington for an experimental television station. The company now operates WTZR, first television station here.

U.S. Completes Equipment Easing Plans

(Continued from page 1)

Equipment Industry Advisory Committee at a meeting with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the WPB photographic section.

A review of the materials situation disclosed that the refined copper supply is such as to still require conservation, but limited amounts released as a result of military cutbacks are being made available for the replacement of substitute materials in essential items.

Steel Bar Situation

The steel bar situation has improved and the photographic equipment industry will have little difficulty in obtaining supplies after the turn of this year, it was said. WPB took under consideration a recommendation that photographic equipment manufacturers be permitted to keep sufficient material on hand to enable them to make civilian items if military orders are cut back.

Meanwhile, an analysis of WPB operations under the spot authorization procedure shows that four applications have been granted for the production of photographic equipment and accessories, calling for the production of $146,000 worth of goods this quarter, $31,000 in the first quarter of next year, $8,000 in the succeeding quarter, and $4,000 in the third quarter. One application also has been granted for the production of projection equipment, calling for $6,000 worth of production this quarter and a similar volume in the first quarter of 1945.

The WPB reported that an application for the production of $17,000 worth of motion picture cameras by an unnamed Chicago manufacturer was denied last week by the War Manpower Commission.

Bennett Reelected Warner Club Head

Martin F. Bennett has been reelected for his fourth term as president of the Warner Club at the home office. Other officers for the year include: vice-presidents Bernard R. Goodman, R. A. McGuire, in charge of membership; F. L. Gates, in charge of claims, Ruth Weisberg, in charge of welfare; Harry Mayer, in charge of social activities; Robert Salomons, treasurer; Sam Wolowitz, assistant treasurer; Stuart H. Aarons, secretary, and M. B. Blackman, acting secretary while Aarons is in military service.

The finance committee includes: Samual Schneider, chairman; Samuel Carlisle, T. J. Martin and W. Stewart McDonald.

Rank Plans U. S. Visit in February

(Continued from page 1)

plans to come to the United States about four months hence. He also plans to go to Hollywood for an extended visit in the production capital during his American sojourn, it is learned.

Trade Press Consensus:

International Pictures, Inc.

Presents

EDWARD G. ROBINSON

and

JOAN BENNETT

in

The Woman in the Window

Directed by FRITZ LANG

with

RAYMOND MASSEY

and

Edmond Breon • Dan Duryea

A NUNNALLY JOHNSON Production

Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

The Screen's Supreme Adventure in Suspens

CHALK UP ANOTHER BIG ONE FROM INTERNATIONAL!"

MOTION PICTURE DAILY — "First it was 'Casanova Brown.' Now it's 'The Woman In The Window.' Two goals — hand running — for Messrs. Goetz and Spitz and their International Pictures . . . The second of their four in 1944-45 for RKO is a corker."

FILM DAILY — "Melodrama at its finest . . . Rates raves . . . As smooth a job of its kind as one can hope to see . . . Should rate easily among the year's top contenders in its class."

BOXOFFICE — "Showmen should issue a sedative to everyone who buys a ticket to this magnificently produced murder yarn, lest the suspense prove too much for some of the customers, of which the picture should attract so many that the SRO sign will be worn threadbare."

MOTION PICTURE HERALD — "International Pictures, Inc., follows up 'Casanova Brown' with another winner in quite a different field . . . The theme is murder and the story is relentlessly logical and continuously fascinating. Rating: Excellent."

VARIETY — "Strong and decidedly suspenseful, with the slick entertainment factors certain to be reflected in strong box-office returns in all bookings . . . A topliner."

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW "One of the most telling suspense-builders ever made. Will have them popeyed on the edge of their seats . . . With a name cast, ace production, and almost certain advance interest, the upper money brackets are indicated."

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER — "A sure sock hit. One of the most absorbing pictures of the year. Will keep audiences on the edges of their seats in tense anticipation to the last frame."

HOLLYWOOD VARIETY — "Most certainly will be one of the talked-of pictures of the year. For sheer suspense and gripping qualities it ranks with the best of all crime stories of the past . . . Should be high grosser."

THE INDEPENDENT — "A distinguished melodrama that should rate high when the final accounting of the year's pictures has been made. Finer melodramatic entertainment would be difficult to locate."

FILM BULLETIN — "First rate thriller. Brilliantly directed. Highly exploitable and will garner good gross."

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Nine Pre-Release 'Creek' Bookings

Pre-release runs for "Frenchman's Creek" have been set in nine keys in October and November, Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, has announced. There will be no advance in admissions either for the pre-release or general release, Reagan declared.

Intensive campaigns will be staged for the nine runs with R. M. Gillham setting plans for San Francisco, St. Louis and Kansas City, and Alec Moss handling Atlanta and New Orleans. The engagements will be: United Artists, Detroit, Oct. 26; Earle and Ambassador, Washington, Nov. 2; Fox, Atlanta, Nov. 9; Newman, Kansas City, Nov. 15; Ambassador, St. Louis, Nov. 15; Saenger, New Orleans, Nov. 18; Fox, San Francisco, Nov. 22; Fox or Paramount, Oakland, Cal., Nov. 22, and Metropolitan, Boston, Nov. 23.

Pioneers' Dinner Is Delayed to Dec. 13

The annual Picture Pioneers' dinner will be held Wednesday evening, Dec. 13, instead of Nov. 16. The new date was set following the decision to make the annual meeting a Christmas party. The affair will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

With Walter Vincent as guest of honor, the gathering will be called the 'Picture Pioneers Exhibitors' Christmas Party.' Sam and George Dembow are co-chairmen of the dinner committee.

Start NBC Film Ads In 800 Theatres

National Broadcasting's film-trailer promotion of its air shows and stars has started in most of the 800 theatres in 117 cities that have been set for NBC by General Screen Advertising. The promotion will run eight weeks with each house running four 60-second trailers.

Warner Again Boosts Checks to Soldiers

All 3,985 former Warner employees in the Armed Forces will receive a check for $20 this Christmas, a boost of $5 over last year and double the amount sent two years ago.

Motion Pictures May 'Invade' Congress

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Experiments are now being conducted here to determine the feasability of using motion pictures for keeping the Senate informed on the progress of the War.

Withdraws Complaint

Stilson Realty Corp., operator of the Cameo Theatre, Astoria, L. I., has withdrawn a clearance complaint filed in the New York tribunal against the five consenting companies by a general stipulation signed by all parties, the American Arbitration Association has reported here.

Variety to Honor Golding Nov. 13

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 23.—Lou Golding, recently named general manager of the Fabian Wilmer and Vincent circuit by Si Fabian, will be honored at a testimonial dinner by local Variety on Monday evening, Nov. 13, at the Ten Eyck Hotel here.

The committee in charge includes Fabian, honorary chairman; C. J. Latta, general chairman; Charles A. Smakwitz, H. L. Ripps, co-chairmen; C. G. Eastman, treasurer; Saul L. Ullman, arrangements, and Joseph Shure, Arthur Newman, Max Westebbe, Nate Winig, Joseph Miller, George Jeffrey, R. J. Goffstein, Alex Sayles, Joseph Saperstein and Milton Schosberg.

Approval Unnecessary

In reporting yesterday that the U. S. Treasury had paved the way for retroactive wage increases for members of Screen Publicists Guild earning $100 a week or more, it was inadvertently stated that further Treasury approval is necessary. This should have read "unnecessary."

Pickford To Produce

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Mary Pickford will co-produce "Mayerling" with Seymour Nebenzal. The picture will be started in January preceding "One Touch of Venus," with United Artists releasing.

MGM Gets "Soldier"

"The Risen Soldier," a book by Archbishop Spellman, has been purchased by M-G-M. The book first appeared in Collier's magazine and was published by Macmillan.

Tenney Hit For Attack

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Charges that State Senator Jack B. Tenney, chairman of the California Legislature's Committee on Un-American Activities, has "failed to live up to the mandate which created the committee," have been made by chairman Emmet Lavery of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization in a letter to Tenney.

Lavery's charges declared in part: "The disorderly 'red-baiting,' which you have permitted in the name of a committee of the state legislature, is not only a discredit to the State of California—it represents serious obstruction of the war effort, one of the very items your committee was instructed to expose."

Lavery requested that his charges be made a part of the record of the Tenney committee, and that he and other officers of the HWM be permitted to present a full statement to the committee at its next meeting.

Projectionist Held As Enemy Agent

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Simon E. Koedel, former New York projectionist, has been arrested at Harpers Ferry, W. Va., and his foster daughter, Marie Hedwig Koedel, arrested in New York on charges of conspiracy to violate the espionage statutes, it was announced today by the Department of Justice.

It is charged the two collected information on military developments, particularly on shipping in New York.

Carnival gaiety fills the air, drawing happy crowds to Rio de Janeiro for the greatest celebration of all time. Republic captures this festive occasion in all its brilliance in "Brazil."

ADVT.

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with

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★ ★ ★ ½★ . . . Powerful . . . suspenseful . . . masterful . . . —N. Y. Daily News

The action is fast, the suspense terrific . . . a grand piece of entertainment . . . —N. Y. Sun

No Hitchcock thriller is possessed of greater cumulative suspense . . . —N. Y. Post

Excellent . . . down-right exciting. —N. Y. Herald-Tribune

A thriller . . . you will hold firmly to the armrests of your seat. A fine piece of picture-making. —N. Y. Times

Exciting — Excellent. Brimming with suspense. This fine production deserves maximum playing-time for general audience trade. —Film Daily

A honey of a picture. Mark it down as a grand cinema yarn. Thrilling isn't the word for it! —N. Y. Journal-American

Best of the melodramas on or off Broadway. Superbly constructed, terrifically tense and thrilling. Don't miss it! —Cue

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(Louis Sobol)

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 80 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1944 TEN CENTS

Depinet Plans $54,000,000 Extra in Bonds

Calls for Projection Room 'Premieres'

Ned Depinet, RKO Radio president and head of the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee, in charge of that branch's participation in the Sixth War Loan, proposed yesterday to raise at least $54,000,000 extra in bonds, issuing a special bulletin to all distributor chairmen urging them to institute an "aggressive campaign" for extra "Projection Room Premieres" in every exchange throughout the country.

Ned E. Depinet

During the Fifth War Loan drive

(*Continued on page* 10)

SOPEG Will Report Progress on Pacts

Two thousand members of the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, Local 109, CIO, employed in the home offices of Paramount, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, RKO and Columbia have been called to a meeting at the Park Central Hotel here tomorrow night to make a decision on the results of contract negotiations between SOPEG and the companies.

It is understood that no deal had

(*Continued on page* 10)

Blum Sees Dubbed Foreign Films Here

The unprecedented program of dubbing an entire season's product in Spanish by M-G-M, first release of which is expected in Latin-America sometime in January, may serve to usher in an era of synchronization by which foreign films will be extensively dubbed in English, in the opinion of David Blum of Loew's international sales division. Blum predicts that a virtual postwar boom in the

(*Continued on page* 10)

Stock Tight, But No Cuts

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Reports of an impending cut of five per cent in allocations of newsreel raw stock were said today by Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the War Production Board photographic section, to be unfounded.

The situation with respect to both regular and newsreel raw stock is delicate, Burrows said, but no more s than it has been for some weeks, and, barring complications now unforeseen, is expected to improve next month. At the moment, he said, demand for row stock is at peak levels, but if the demand does not increase and supplies continue to flow levelly, it is expected the situation can be weathered.

"I have never set any figure, five, ten or any other per cent, for a cut in

(*Continued on page* 10)

WAC Cuts Bulletins For Loan Trailers

The War Activities Committee has been unable to obtain sufficient raw stock to make trailers for the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan drive and been forced to curtail the length of its four film bulletins to be released during December and January. An estimated 2,500,000 feet of film is needed and by cutting the bulletins from 200 feet to 50 feet, some 2,000,000 feet will be obtained.

It is unlikely that the WAC will release the special Arturo Toscanini film, "Hymn of All Nations," made by the Office of War Information's Overseas Motion Picture Branch, in connection with the drive as had been contemplated, because of the shortage.

B'nai B'rith Will Honor Balaban

Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith will honor Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, "for his contributions to human welfare and the traditional idea of American freedom," at an open meeting of the lodge in the Hotel Piccadilly next Tuesday evening. Balaban will be presented with a scroll by Alfred W. Schwalberg, honorary president of Cinema. Albert A. Senft is president.

Receipts Hold On Broadway

Another week of big grosses will prevail for many downtown first-run theatres on the basis of weekend business which was not greatly affected by the Friday-Saturday rains. Radio City Music Hall, Roxy, Paramount and Hollywood are continuing to draw heavily and of new entries, "Summer Storm," at the Gotham, is outstanding with $20,000 expected on the first week.

"Mrs. Parkington" and a stage show are giving the Music Hall impressive receipts with between $120,000 and $125,000 expected on the second week on the basis of $75,000 taken in during the first four days ending Sunday night. "Laura" and a stage show featuring Hazel Scott and Jackie Miles, at the Roxy, are also

(*Continued on page* 10)

Studios to Extend Use Of Radio in Postwar

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Motion picture producers plan new uses for radio in connection with production operations after the war and will need additional frequencies for that purpose as well as to improve present services, the Federal Communications Commission was told here today by John V. L. Hogan of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Hollywood.

Representing the industry at hearings being held by the Commission as a preliminary to a new allocation of radio frequencies and the development of new international communications treaties, Hogan testified that "radio plays an important part" in productions made at distances from studios, citing the making of pictures at sea and in Alaska.

In one instance, he said, it made it possible to save a ship that had been sent out to make a picture, which

(*Continued on page* 11)

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "Girl Rush," RKO, and "Faces in the Fog," Republic, will be found on page 8; also "Sheriff of Sundown," Republic, and "I Accuse My Parents," PRC, on page 11.

E. T. Carr Sets Rank Films in 11 Countries

Carr in Charge in All Places Except Americas

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Oct. 24.—Return of E. T. Carr, J. Arthur Rank's emissary, from the Far East, gives further and extensive evidence of Rank's determination to secure a strong position in the world's film markets.

With Carr in charge of Rank distribution throughout the world, as now disclosed, except in the Americas, his trip resulted in distribution arrangements in India, China, Egypt, North Africa, Iran, Irak, Palestine, South Africa, Australia, Spain, Portugal and elsewhere.

Carr finalized contracts for a 51 per cent interest in British Distributors, Ltd., leading Indian distributing company, which has been reorganized

(*Continued on page* 11)

Distributors May Testify for Schine

BUFFALO, Oct. 24.—With questioning of Robert I. Pierce of Ilion, N. Y., former operator of the Capitol Theatre, proceeding slowly, it became apparent here today that the Government's case against Schine Chain Theatres in the anti-trust trial will not be completed by tomorrow, as first had been assumed by Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice.

Meanwhile, Schine attorney Saul E. Rogers, who was absent yesterday,

(*Continued on page* 11)

Skouras Aiding NBC Air Show on Greece

Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president and national president of the Greek War Relief Association, is now making arrangements for screen talent to participate in NBC's Coast-to-Coast "University of the Air" broadcast of Oct. 27 marking the fourth year of Greece's war against aggressors.

Nick John Matsoukas of Skouras Theatres here is in charge of arrangements for the broadcast, titled "We Came This Way." Among the stars who will participate are Katina Paxinou, Dana Andrews, Edward Arnold, "Skippy" Homeier and others.

Personal Mention

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, is en route to Hollywood.

•

ROBERT SCHENCK, owner of the Lord Baltimore and Towson Theatres, is at the Union Memorial hospital, Baltimore, being treated for heart trouble.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, Universal assistant general sales manager, was in Detroit today and will be in Chicago today and tomorrow, returning to New York Friday.

•

FRANK HORNIG, president of the M.P.T.O. of Maryland is a patient at Mercy Hospital, Baltimore, suffering from a heart attack.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, assistant general sales manager for Warner Bros., returned to New York yesterday from a Southern trip.

•

ALBERT HOWSON, Warner home office censorship director, and MRS. HOWSON, will observe their 40th wedding anniversary today.

•

STERLING SILLIPHANT, formerly of Spyros Skouras' staff at 20th Century-Fox, is now an ensign sationed at Navy Pier, Chicago.

•

LOU COHEN, manager of Loew's Poli, Hartford, and MRS. COHEN, are observing their 25th wedding anniversary.

•

CHARLES MIDELBURG, operator of the Capitol Theatre, Charleston, West Virginia, left here yesterday.

•

ISADORE M. RAPPAPORT, owner of the Hippodrome, Baltimore, is visiting in New York.

•

BILL FINNEY, Atlanta division manager of Loew's theatres, has recovered from an illness.

•

LINDSLEY PARSONS, Monogram producer, is confined to his Van Nuys, Cal., home with "flu."

•

RUSSELL DOWNING, Radio City Music Hall comptroller, is on a two-week vacation.

•

STEWART MCDONALD, Warner Theatres executive, is in Chicago from New York.

•

HERBERT WHITE, 20th Century-Fox Cuban manager, left here yesterday for Havana.

•

CARL BANFORD, Asheville Paramount theatre affiliate, is visiting in New York.

•

NORMAN H. MORAY, Warner short subject sales manager, was in Philadelphia yesterday.

•

MARCELLA NAPP, in charge of talent for DAVID O. SELZNICK, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Oct. 24

IT is a source of regret that geography and an occasional duty on this Coast prevented us from attending the 'Aloha' dinner tendered Arthur L. Mayer on the East Coast last Wednesday. He leaves shortly for Hawaii where he will work for the Red Cross in association with Stanton Griffis and Conger Goodyear.

As next best, we have by this typewriter's side the text of the address which Mayer delivered that evening. He kidded himself, his Rialto theatre and the whodunits it plays—to satisfaction of auditor and Treasury Department — and thereafter went serious with a number of observations about the post-war period.

They may encounter disagreement, scoffing and dissident points of view, as such matters have the habit, but they were intelligible and intelligent for our money. We quote:

■

"It's high time our picture industry, which has played so vital, so essential a role in the war effort, gird itself with equal vigilance for the peace effort. . . . No industry, least of all our own, can dare to face these problems [of peace] a house divided against itself. No industry, without grave danger to its future usefulness, can afford to be left at the post in the post-war world."

With seasoned understanding of the internal fabric of the industry's structure, Mayer is adult enough to recognize struggles between buyer and seller. Circuit power versus independent will continue on stage. But note this sound approach:

"But above and beyond these inevitable internal problems, there will be issues at stake affecting the welfare of every man and woman in this room, every man and woman working in this industry—issues on which we, as members of the picture family, inevitably see and feel alike and on which, if we are wise, we will act alike."

If cooperation among the family of nations is a prerequisite of peace—and this is inescapable—cooperation amog the components of a single industry seems inescapable, too.

Mayer proposes the scrapping of no existing organizations. Rather does he urge, in the event of the need, that total resources of all organizations weld themselves into a solid phalanx to protect and to enhance the common good. To us, this makes a great deal of sense.

He points up the forces of danger and difficulty—isolationists, reactionaries and bigots—and urges, "If we are statesmanlike and farsighted, if we are worthy of the responsibilities entrusted to us, we must be prepared to meet this attack as a united industry. United for an untrammeled screen, united for freedom of expression. . . ."

■

Pointing out 50 different agencies are now producing film, he warns no government, irrespective of political coloration, will willingly relinquish "this marvelous opportunity for propaganda and self-justification." Thereby, Mayer gives voice to the less vocal and the cautious who ponder to what extent government will continue in this industry after the war is ended.

One approach which will interest many in Hollywood, if and when this address is fully absorbed, deals with possible effects on what Mayer terms "frank, punchy" pictures through State Department influence in judging types of product for foreign distribution so that American civilization only in most favorable terms unfolds before overseas audiences. He cites "Double Indemnity." He might have cited others, like "The Woman in the Window," and "Laura."

■

But Mayer reaches his climax when he argues for detention of the War Activities Committee in peace-time garb. He is for the machinery which has proven joint action is possible when the reason is sufficiently compelling.

Industry-wide unity, working through a central organization, has enjoyed a checkered and dubious life. Partisan interests always have intervened; motives, therefore, have been suspect. Perhaps it is seeking a modern millenium to hope that out of the unsatisfactory history of the past a new day may give birth.

The tides of competition flow and ebb too violently to place such an objective within easy reach. Yet all sound judgment and all mature thinking are allied on the side of concerted action in periods of danger.

Common threats can be met best and only by common action.

Coming Events

Through Nov. 17—Industry field meetings on Sixth War Loan campaign.

Oct. 30—Theatrical and Motion Picture Committee for Roosevelt, Truman and Wagner luncheon-rally, Hotel Astor, New York.

Oct. 31—Government to issue stamp honoring films' 50th anniversary.

Nov. 5—Western Motion Picture Radio Awards Association meeting, Hollywood Bowl, Hollywood.

Nov. 11—Motion Picture Associates' Sixth War Loan dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.

Nov. 13—Variety Club testimonial dinner for Lou Golding, Ten Eyck Hotel, Albany.

Nov. 14—'Night of Stars,' for United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 20-Dec. 16—Sixth War Loan campaign.

Nov. 20—Sixth Loan rally, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 23-25—National Variety Club meeting, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Dec. 7—National 'Free Movie Day' at theatres for Sixth War Loan.

Dec. 13—Picture Pioneers' annual dinner, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

Jan. 17—B'nai B'rith annual theatre party, New York.

MGM's Lynch and Hensler Due Nov. 6

Clayton Lynch, Los Angeles M-G-M manager, and Frank Hensler, Kansas City office chief, are scheduled to arrive in New York Nov. 6 for conferences with home office executives.

Frank Downey, Detroit manager, and Harry Shumow, Milwaukee, arrived at the weekend for their visit with department heads, carrying out M-G-M's plan for bringing in field men to discuss company practice.

$200,000 from Rank To Service Women

LONDON, Oct. 24.—J. Arthur Rank tomorrow will present Mrs. Winston Churchill with a check for approximately $200,000, representing the proceeds of collections in Rank's Odeon and Gaumont-British Theatres as an aid to Mrs. Churchill's Young Women's Christian Association's activities for women in the Armed Forces.

Horne to Monogram Foreign Department

David D. Horne has joined Monogram's foreign department in line with expansion of its foreign program. Horne was connected with RKO for 11 years and previously was associated with Warners foreign department in foreign branch office operations.

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VOTE EVERY

KEEP THEM ALL IN (BOX) OFFICE!

MRS. PARKINGTON
Their public demands Garson, Pidgeon!

KISMET
People's choice! Colman, Dietrich, Technicolor!

SEVENTH CROSS
Spencer Tracy! He serves you well!

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS
Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien, Technicolossal!

30 SECONDS OVER TOKYO
Spencer Tracy, Van Johnson, Robt. Walker. Tops!

NATIONAL VELVET
Winners! Mickey Rooney, Technicolor, Big Cast!

THIN MAN GOES HOME
William Powell, Myrna Loy. Indispensable!

THE M-G-M TICKET IS THE BOX-OFFICE TICKET!

STORM OVER LISBON

Starring

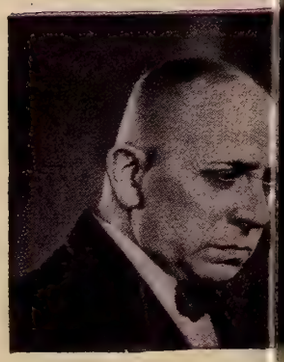
VERA HRUBA RALSTON
RICHARD ARLEN
ERICH VON STROHEIM

with

OTTO KRUGER
EDUARDO CIANNELLI
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
MONA BARRIE

GEORGE SHERMAN, Director
Original Story by ELIZABETH MEEHAN
Adaptation by DANE LUSSIER
Screenplay by DORIS GILBERT

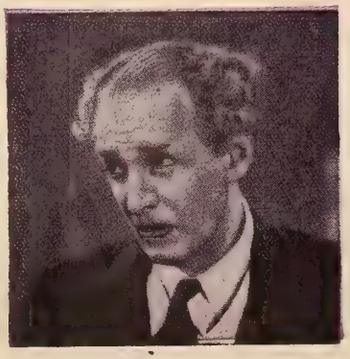
A REPUBLIC PICTURE



Siren with a secret

lovely as a tropic flower . . . exciting as a new love . . . dangerous as dynamite! The destinies of nations were in the power of her promise . . . the touch of her lips . . . the sound of her voice!

4 BIG WEEKS
REPUBLIC THEATRE
BROADWAY, N.Y.



'Irish Eyes' Smile At the Stanley With $23,800 Gross

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 24.—Business is fair in downtown houses with holdovers and second runs predominating. The "Ice Capades" show, current at the Philadelphia Arena, is a competing factor. "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" at the Stanley, major opening this week, points to $23,800 with an additional $4,000 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 25-27:

"The Great Moment" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $14,600).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $4,000).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,400. (Average: $18,000).
"Heavenly Days" (RKO) 6 days.
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox) 1 day.
EARLE—(3,000) (40c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Freddie Slack's band, Mary Ann McCall, Paul Remos and His Toy Boys, Betty Jane Smith and Henry Armetta. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $27,600).
"Rainbow Island" (Para).
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $20,500).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $6,600).
"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,800).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $29,500. (Average: $22,500).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,800. (Average: $20,000).
"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $9,400).

'Music,' Big Show Do Very Big $20,000

BALTIMORE, Oct. 24.—Wind and a rain storm kept openings below normal and were hurtful despite strong attractions. Weekend business helped final figures, however, and grosses managed to strike around average or slightly better. "Music in Manhattan," bolstered by an outstanding stage show, tops the list with $20,000 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 26:

"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,000).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,000).
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Bert Wheeler, Miss America of 1944, Jean Parker. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,500).
"The Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,000).

Variety Sponsors Clinic

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24. — Local Variety has established a glaucoma clinic at the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Nose hospital here. Variety will support a full-time worker in the clinic.

Loew's Promoting Anniversary Stamp

Two hundred film critics and editors in cities in which Loew theatres are located will receive 'first-day-cancellation' mail bearing the 50th film industry anniversary commemorative postage stamp, as part of Loew's cooperation with the postal department in promoting the new issue. Oscar A. Doob, Loew advertising director, is writing to each editor calling attention to the commemorative stamp.

'SYWA' Is Very Big, Grossing $17,000

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 24. — "Since You Went Away" at Loew's will gross $17,000 to lead box office receipts here this week. Almost all houses show a definite gain. The Indiana, with "Arsenic and Old Lace" and "The Big Noise" expects $15,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 24-26:

"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,600).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Walking Dead" (WB)
"Tiger Shark" (WB)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,900).

Judge Stops SOEG Political Collection

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 24.—Superior Judge Clarence M. Hanson restrained officers of the Screen Office Employes Guild today from forcing nearly 2,800 members to pay from $1 to $2 each into a political fund.

The judge ordered the union not to oust from good standing members who balked at paying the political levy and not to intimidate, threaten, black-list or work reprisals against them.

He directed those candidates who had received money from such collections to halt its spending. Hal Styles, Democratic Congressional candidate, was named in the complaint as one who had received such money.

McClintock Resigns MBS Presidency

Miller McClintock, president of the Mutual Broadcasting System, announced last night that he will retire from that post at the termination of his present contract, which will expire before the end of the year. McClintock was Mutual's first paid president, assuming office in November, 1942

Kobak Resigns from Blue

Edgar Kobak has resigned as executive vice-president of the Blue Network Company, Inc., effective Saturday, Edward J. Noble, chairman of the company, announced yesterday. Kobak has been in charge of future developments for the Blue Network, including television, facsimile and frequency modulation.

Cincinnati Pays $17,000 for 'Irish'

CINCINNATI, Oct. 24.—Heaviest gross this week prevails at RKO's Albee, where "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" is moving toward an expected $17,000, up $3,500 on the house average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 25-28:

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $13,500).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee premiere. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $10,000)
"The Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,400).
"Bordertown Trail" (Rep.)
"Meet Mis Bobby Socks" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $900. (Average: $800).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 4th week, following a week at the Albee and two weeks at the Grand. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 5th week, following the day-date week at the Albee and Grand and two weeks at the Capitol, one week at the Lyric. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).
"The Conspirators" (WB))
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Naughty Marietta" (M-G-M reissue)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).

'Irish Eyes' Boosts Average by $9,000

DENVER, Oct. 24.—"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" on a dual at the Denver scored $24,000 this week while "Stage Coach" on a twin bill at the Paramount was second with $15,340.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 22-25:

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $10,460. (Average: $5,600).
"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $4,875. (Average: $3,900).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $4,500).
"Stage Coach" (UA)
"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,340. (Average: $9,300).
"Janie" (WB)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $6,750. (Average: $5,000).

'Romance' Premiere

DOVER, Del., Oct. 24.—M-G-M's "An American Romance" had its Delaware premiere here last evening at the Capitol Theatre. Mrs. George M. Schwartz, owner-manager, had as guests state, county and city officials, as well as industry and newspaper representatives. Tom Baldridge of M-G-M assisted in the promotion.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 24

IRVING RAPPER has been assigned to direct "Silver Lining," biography of Marilyn Miller, which Jerry Wald will produce for Warners. . . . Louis Hayward's first picture since his return from the Armed Forces will be "Ten Little Indians," which Rene Clair will produce for Samuel Bronston. . . . Allan Jones will have the male lead in Universal's "Romance, Inc." . . . Dana Andrews has been cast for one of the principal roles in "State Fair," color feature which William Perlberg will produce for 20th Century-Fox. . . . Wesley Ruggles has signed Johnny Burke and Jimmy Van Dusen to write the score for "London Town," Ruggles' first for Eagle-Lion, which will be made in London. . . . Alan Ladd has been added to the cast of "Duffy's Tavern" at Paramount.

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Ann Sheridan is back in town to make "The Time, the Place and the Girl" at Warners. . . . Oy Chan has joined the cast of "Blood on the Sun," which William Cagney is producing for UA release. . . . Josephine Whittell has been added to the cast of "The Enchanted Cottage," Harriet Parsons production at RKO.

•

Washington Irving's "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" will be filmed by RKO as a "high budget and star-studded musical," Richard Berger producing under supervision of executive producer Jack Gross. . . . Leo Carrillo has been signed by PRC for a lead in "Crime, Inc.," which Leon Fromkess will produce with Martin Mooney in association and Lew Landers directing. . . . Bela Lugosi has been added to the cast of RKO's "The Body Snatcher," which stars Boris Karloff.

•

Paramount is preparing "California" as a musical for Bing Crosby, with Emmet Lavery and Theodore Strauss at work on a new treatment. The feature will be produced by Harry Tugend. . . . "War Criminals," an original story, has been purchased by Columbia and its author, Ted Thomas, signed to develop the screenplay. . . . Universal producer Bernard Burton has been assigned to a new comedy, "The Man I Marry."

•

"The Jimmy Wakely Series" has been set as the general title of the Monogram outdoor series which was formerly known as the "Saddle Pals" series. The first is "Song of the Range," which Philip N. Krasne produced. . . . M-G-M has given Phyllis Thaxter a new term contract. . . . Dennis O'Keefe has been signed by Hal Wallis for one of the leads opposite Joan Fontaine in "The Affairs of Susan," Wallis' second picture for Paramount.

Press to Honor Othman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Fred Othman, former United Press Hollywood columnist, now handling a Washington column for the same news service, will be honored at a reception at the Wardman Park Hotel tomorrow evening. The Washington Press Club will sponsor the affair.

WE "CAN'T HELP SINGING" THE PRAISES OF JEROME KERN

Looking around for a statistic, as one will do once in a while, we discovered that Jerome Kern is now celebrating his 40th anniversary as a composer of hit songs.

Well may he know that he is not celebrating alone. Certainly, everyone who has enjoyed the beautiful Kern music over the years will celebrate with him, and certainly all of his friends in the music business, all of his friends in radio and motion pictures will celebrate also.

We extend our felicitations to Jerome Kern.

And we salute him on the occasion of having completed a typical, fine Jerome Kern score for Universal's Technicolor production, "Can't Help Singing," starring Deanna Durbin.

You will be hearing these Kern hits, which include "More And More," "Any Moment Now," "Californ-i-ay," "Elbow Room" and the title song, "Can't Help Singing."

T. B. HARMS MUSIC COMPANY

KRS Delays Action On Monopoly Report

LONDON, Oct. 24. — The general council of the Kinematograph Renters Society today decided that the British Board of Trade's monopoly report, which raises many involved and far-reaching questions, demands consideration at a special meeting. The matter was accordingly adjourned until the members can conveniently participate in an extended discussion of the report.

Meanwhile, Joseph Friedman, Columbia's British manager, raised the question at a KRS meeting of different treatment accorded American and British soldiers at film shows, pointing out that the former, though admission-free, pay a token charge, a percentage of which is paid by the Army to distributors concerned, whereas the latter get their films virtually as a gift from the distributors. On the suggestion of Sam Eckman, M-G-M's managing director in Great Britain, the matter was left to the discretion of a KRS committee.

'Conspirators' Goes $4,300 Over Par

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—"Waterloo Bridge" at Loew's Capitol shares top honors with "The Conspirators" at Warner's Earle this week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 26 are:

"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: The Merry Macs. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA — (1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 5th downtown week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,200).

"The Conspirators" (WB)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. On stage: Wally West. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $19,700).

"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,600).

"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN — (1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,200).

"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,000).

Legion Classifies Seven New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following: Class A-1, "Lights of Old Santa Fe," Republic; Class A-2, "I'm From Arkansas," PRC; "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," 20th Century-Fox; "Lost in a Harem," M-G-M, and "None But the Lonely Heart," "The Princess and the Pirate" and "The Woman in the Window," all RKO.

N.Y. Censors Reject Film

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 24. — The refusal of Irwin Esmond, director of the motion picture division of the state education department, to approve the film, "Going My Way, Mister," has been upheld by the State Board of Regents. The picture was submitted to Esmond by Equity Film Exchange in 1941 under the title of "Highway Hell," and again in March of this year, under the new title, by Ira H. Simmons, New York. In August the Eastern Trading Corp. also submitted it to Esmond under the new title, claiming cuts had been made, but it was rejected again.

Reviews

"Girl Rush"

(RKO Radio)

COMEDIANS Wally Brown and Alan Carney, although no Abbott and Costello team, run through a stream of frantic comedy routines in "Girl Rush" that are somewhat reminiscent of many venerable A-C comics and manage to bludgeon the uncritical onlooker into quite a few chuckles. Vera Vague is on hand to add to the laughs, Frances Langford to do musical interpolations more than adequately, and Robert Mitchum who is decorative in a masculine sort of way. And last, but not least, there is a line of "can-can" girls.

Robert Kent's screenplay, based on his stage play, is liberally sprinkled with hokum in this take-off of the Gold Rush days. Brown and Carney, musical hall actors, hit out to prospect for gold when discovery of the metal threatens to close up their show. They hope to secure enough money to take their stranded show back to New York. After almost starving to death, they make a "strike" and a group of miners, seeing the gals, asks the boys to bring the show into town. How they bring in the girls against the opposition of gamblers results in what is literally a "slam-bang" ending. Gordon Douglas' direction is brisk and timed for laughs. John Auer produced. Paul Hurst, Cy Kendall, John Merton and Sarah Madden round out the cast.

Running time, 65 mins. "G"* Release date not set. CHARLES RYWECK

"Faces in the Fog"

(Republic)

A SUBDUED and rational treatment of the juvenile-delinquency problem, devoid of much of the usual shrill sensationalism, is brought to the screen in "Faces in the Fog." Jack Townley's serious screenplay, which only occasionally erupts into lurid melodrama, provides associate producer Herman Millakowsky and director John English with ample opportunity to deliver a winner, and they succeed. A good cast, consisting of Jane Withers, Paul Kelly, Lee Patrick, John Litel, Eric Sinclair, Dorothy Peterson, Gertrude Michael and H. B. Warner, delivers solid supporting strength.

Emphasis is put upon the delinquency of the parents, played by Kelly and Miss Peterson, who neglect their offspring and by so doing, set in motion a chain of events which leads to a near-tragedy. After Sinclair, a high school senior, has been expelled from school for shielding the principals in an accident, he enlists in the Army, then marries Miss Withers. They spend their wedding night in an auto camp, and are spotted by a schoolmate, who maliciously informs Kelly. The enraged parent, ignorant of his daughter's marriage, shoots Sinclair. Kelly is acquitted by a jury when his daughter steadfastly refuses to reveal her marriage during the trial, perjuring herself in the process. Sinclair recovers and they spend their honeymoon together before his departure for the Army, and then she turns to face the penalty for perjury.

Running time, 71 mins. "G."* Release date not set.

**"G" denotes general classification.* C. R.

'Arsenic' Soothes Buffalo 1st Run

BUFFALO, Oct. 24.—"Arsenic and Old Lace" was bidding for the lead here at the Buffalo and probably will hit $20,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28:

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
BUFFALO — (3,489) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,400).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,700. (Average: $16,200).

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
"The Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,700).

"Youth Runds Wild" (RKO)
"Minstrel Man" (PRC)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,200).

"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,400).

RKO Settles Stone Suit

Suit of Dorothy Stone, film-library-operator, against RKO-Pathe News has been settled out of U. S. District Court here for a "nominal sum." Action sought $25,250 alleging breach of contract, with Miss Stone having charged that she was engaged as associate editor of the "Flicker Flashbacks" series and that she was discharged after the completion of an issue.

'SYWA' in Toronto $5,600 Above Par

TORONTO, Oct. 24. — "Since You Went Away" took over the spotlight at Loew's Theatre, where the gross was expected to be $16,800.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 26:

"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $12,800).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $11,200).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 8th week. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $12,800).

"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,400).

"The Climax" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $9,800).

Cobian Closes for 20th-Fox Product

Ramos Cobian, Puerto Rican circuit operator who recently extended his operations to Cuba where he acquired 13 theatres, has closed a franchise deal with 20th Century-Fox. The deal is on a year-to-year basis and is for the theatres in Cuba.

Cobian has virtually concluded a deal with Paramount whereby he would acquire a franchise to distribute its product for five years.

3 Arbitration Cases Reported by AAA

An appeal of dismissal of a clearance complaint in the Boston tribunal, dismissal of a clearance complaint in the Dallas tribunal and filing of a some-run complaint in the Oklahoma City tribunal were reported here yesterday by the American Arbitration Association.

The National Theatre Co., complainant, and Dudley Amusement Co. and Rivoli Theatre, Inc., intervenors, have appealed the dismissal by George E. Gordon, arbitrator in the Boston tribunal, of National's clearance complaint against the five consenting companies. Complaint against Paramount, Loew's and Warners was dismissed and 30-days clearance for the Rivoli over the National in the contracts of RKO and 20th Century-Fox was granted by the arbitrator.

In the Dallas tribunal, arbitrator Robert B. Hinks has dismissed the clearance complaint by W. V. Adwell, operator of the Roxy Theatre, San Angelo, Tex., against the five consenting companies.

In the Oklahoma City tribunal, H. T. Burns, operator of the Cyril Theatre, Cyril, Okla., has filed a some-run complaint against Paramount. Complainant claims that his theatre is the only house in the city and that Paramount has refused to offer any pictures for rental. He wants some-run of Paramount films.

'Maisie' with 'Spars' Gets Big $30,000

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 24.—The Midland this week more than doubled its score with "Maisie Goes to Reno" on the screen and the stage revue, "Tars and Spars," on stage; the take for the week was around $30,000. Good weather prevailed all week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 24-27:

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,400).

"Maizie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (55c-75c) 7 days. "Tars and Spars" revue. Gross: $30,000 (Average at 40c-60c: $14,000).

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $10,000).

"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
"Prairie Chickens" (UA)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,400).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600).

Julia Here to Study Theatre Development

Jorge Julia, chief architect of Cobian Theatres of Puerto Rico, has arrived here from that country for several weeks of conferences with Paramount theatre department architects and engineers in order to acquaint himself with developments envisaged for postwar construction which he will incorporate in the circuit's theatres.

While here, Julia will also confer with engineers of General Electric on theatre television.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

October 11, 1944

To All Motion Picture Exhibitors:

I am gratified to learn that we may again count on the full support of the Motion Picture Exhibitors during the coming Sixth War Loan Campaign.

The record of accomplishment which this group has built up in support of past drives is impressive indeed and has contributed greatly to the overall record of which we are so proud.

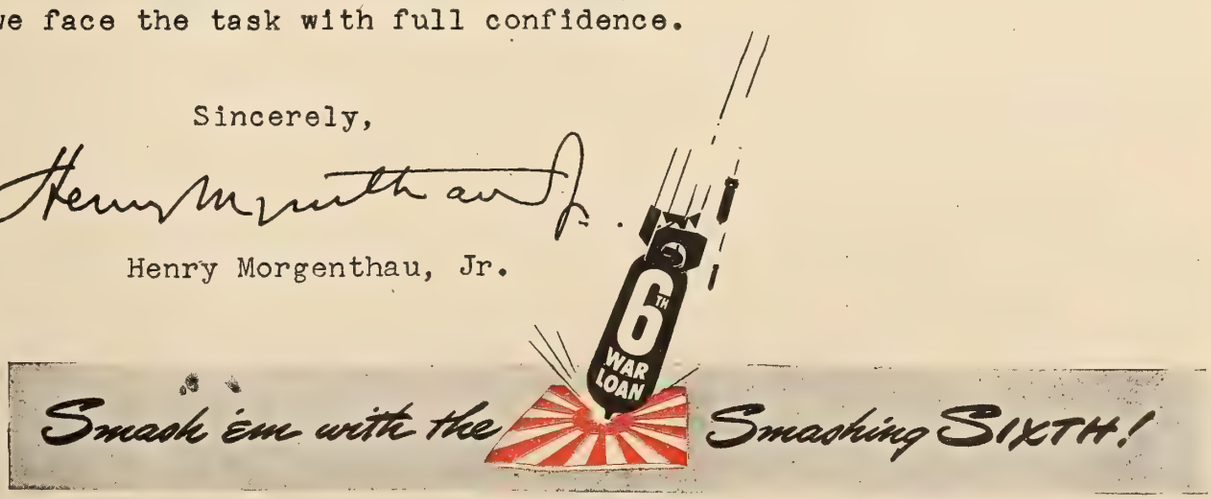
The development of War Bond Premieres has added substantially to the value of their assistance as has the willingness of so many of the individual theatres to act as issuing agents for War Bonds.

The task of raising the additional fourteen billion dollars required during the Sixth War Loan Drive will by no means be an easy one. However, with the knowledge of the loyal support of groups such as the Motion Picture Exhibitors we face the task with full confidence.

Sincerely,

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.



Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N.Y.C.

Receipts Hold On Broadway

(Continued from page 1)

drawing many customers, with about $93,000 taken in the second week.

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" and a personal appearance by Frank Sinatra gave the Paramount about $88,000 on a strong second week while an excellent $40,000 is expected by the Hollywood on the second week of "To Have and Have Not." All four films will continue.

"The Conspirators," combined with a stage show headed by Les Brown and his orchestra, at the Strand, is expected to bring a good initial week's $58,000 on the basis of $30,000 recorded from Friday to Sunday. The fourth and final week of "The Seventh Cross" and a stage show at the Capitol is expected to bring about $55,000. "Marriage Is a Private Affair," coupled with a show featuring Arlene Francis, Ella Mae Morse, Johnnie Johnston and Bob Strong and orchestra, will open at the Capitol tomorrow.

'Creek' Tops Long Runs

Of the long runs, "Frenchman's Creek" brought a big $48,000 on its fifth week at the Rivoli and "Kismet" recorded $20,000 in its ninth week at the Astor. Both will continue with "Meet Me in St. Louis" set to follow "Kismet" into the Astor rather than "American Romance," as planned.

New arrivals at the Palace and the Globe are playing to moderate business. "Heavenly Days" is expected to bring the Palace $18,000 on a first week; it will remain for an additional four days before making way for "The Master Race" on Nov. 1. "Sweet and Lowdown" brought a quiet $11,000 to the Globe and "Abroad With Two Yanks" will take over today.

"One Mysterious Night" will bring the Rialto a mild $7,500 for the week and will make way for "Murder in the Blue Room" Friday. A disappointing $3,500 is all that is expected on the five days of a second week for "My Pal, Wolf," at the Republic; and a return engagement of "Waterloo Bridge" will start today. "Wilson" will continue at the Victoria although RKO houses in the Metropolitan area are playing the film on a special three-day run at advanced prices; $13,000 was recorded for a fourth week at the Victoria.

PRC Extends Contest And Closes Deal

Leo J. McCarthy, PRC general sales manager, yesterday announced that the closing date of PRC's "100 Days-100%" sales contest, previously set to terminate Dec. 2, has been extended to March 1. Prizes totalling $7,500 will be divided among five teams from among PRC's 28 exchanges.

McCarthy also announced that PRC has closed with the Blumenfeld circuit in San Francisco for its 1944-45 product.

Quinn to Ross Federal

Joseph Quinn has been named to the executive staff of Ross Federal Service, it was reported here yesterday by D. A. Ross. Quinn has been an FBI agent.

Seek $54,000,000 Extra 6th War Bond Sales

(Continued from page 1)

there were only 13 of these premieres, which resulted in the sale of 1,110 bonds. Depinet said, "The premieres accounted for $3,000,000 in extra bonds, as held in Chicago, Los Angeles, Charlotte, Philadelphia, New Haven and Seattle."

Under the plan, efforts will be made to have each projection room booked with a special attraction for a full six performances.

There are at least six projection rooms in each of the 33 exchange cities. Each room contains approximately 50 seats, making available 1,800 seats in each city for six performances. Thirty exchanges with 1,800 seats each account for 54,000 seats available for all premieres.

The plan is to sell some important exhibitor, merchant, banker, civic or social leader in each city to take over one of the six special premieres and invite his own guests. Admission to the screenings would be "free" with each purchase of at least a $1,000 bond.

Mandel Names 27 to Aid in 6th Drive

Harry Mandel, New York area publicity chairman for the Sixth War Loan, has set up the following committee to publicize the drive in this territory: Edward Dowden, special events director; John A. Cassidy, press liaison with Paula Gould and Ruth Newman; Fred Norman, Nick Matsoukas, radio; Blanche F. Livingston, printing and decorations; William Slater, Peggy Foldes, Herman Barnett, bulletins; Harold Holt, newspaper advertising; Al Naroff, Jerry Sager, Sid Kain, Irving Shiffrin, Janice Rentchler, Times Square Activities.

Publicists handling the drive in the borough are: Al Zimbalist, Arthur Price, Manhattan; Myron Siegal, Jay Burton, Brooklyn; Sam Coolick, Vincent Liguori, Bronx; Ray Malone, Sid Kain, Queens; Edgar Goth, Richmond; Arthur Egberts, Ira Morais, Westchester.

This morning the publicists will attend New York area chairman Malcolm Kingsberg's general committee meeting in RKO's home office.

Latta Names Chairmen For N. Y. State's 6th

ALBANY, Oct. 24.—C. J. Latta, state chairman of the War Activities Committee for the Sixth War Loan, has announced the following co-chairmen to direct the campaign in their respective areas: Andy Roy, Charlie Gordon, Utica; Harry Unterfort, Syracuse; Jay Golden, Rochester; George McKenna, Buffalo; Ralph E. Crabill, Elmira; Tom Walsh, Binghamton. Latta will handle the Albany territory. In addition to the aforementioned the Schine Theatres will be covered by Louis W. and J. Meyer Schine and the Kallet Theatres by Sid Kallet.

Charles Smakwitz will be the coordinator and publicity director for the Albany area, and Charlie Taylor of the WAC publicity staff, with William Brearton and Gerard Westergaren handling publicity for the Buffalo territory.

Connecticut Plans For Sixth War Loan

HARTFORD, Oct. 24.—Harry F. Shaw, Connecticut state exhibitor chairman for the Sixth War Loan, has advised national committee headquarters that the Connecticut campaign will include bond premieres, "Free-Movie" day and children's shows. Shaw reported that he has arranged with radio station WOR and the Mutual Network to have the Uncle Don show at children's bond premieres in New Haven on Dec. 2 and in Bridgeport Dec. 9.

Sixth Lobby Material Available Through NSS

A Sixth War Loan burgee and valance for bond-selling front and lobby displays during the drive have been issued by the industry's national drive committee and will be available through National Screen exchanges in a week, John Hertz, Jr., campaign publicity-advertising director, reports. Also available will be ushers' badges to be worn during the drive.

Golden's 'Race' Opens Today in 200 Cities

Edward Golden-RKO's "The Master Race" will open in 200 cities today, which, according to RKO, numerically tops any premiere of a picture. The key hubs will be Boston, Buffalo and Albany, with the premiere backed by a heavy publicity campaign planned by S. Barret McCormick, RKO director of advertising and publicity, and executed by RKO's field exploitation staff under Terry Turner.

The campaign included heavy usage of radio time newspaper advertising and publicity, posting of 24 sheets and lectures by authors and newspaper correspondents familiar with the Nazi set-up.

Services for Bernard

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—Funeral services were held here this week for Felix Bernard, 47, composer of "Dardanella" and many others, at the Little Church of the Flowers in Forest Lawn. He is survived by his widow, mother and a sister.

SOPEG Will Report Progress On Pacts

(Continued from page 1)

been completed up to yesterday although meetings with the companies have been scheduled prior to the Thursday night membership meeting.

SOPEG has been negotiating for more than three months on a system of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales and automatic wage progressions. Benefits which are derived by the workers would be retroactive to Oct., 1943, under a contract that expired July 27, 1944, and has now been extended for two 60-day periods.

Williams to Washington

P. A. Williams, March of Time advertising director, will leave tonight for Washington where tomorrow he will hold a preview of "What To Do With Germany," in the National Archives building, attended by press and Government officials. Williams will return tomorrow night.

Blum Sees Dubbed Foreign Films Here

(Continued from page 1)

industry may result from dubbing. It will be common for American audiences to see Mexican and South American films dubbed in English, and other countries, principally France, Italy and Russia will probably dub freely in English, thus making their product available to immeasurably larger audiences here. With this in mind, Russia has been sending dubbed versions to the U. S.

Blum declared independents may first start this inverse dubbing, but the majors may be forced to follow. One effect on production will be that it may force Hollywood to "be on its toes," with the language barrier no longer standing in the way of foreign films. Blum pointed to the trend in dubbing which existed prior to the outbreak of war in such countries as France, Italy, Spain and even Germany. This, he stated, will become accelerated.

Although M-G-M has dubbed versions in Spanish ready for release, it will hold these films until January, by which time their super-imposed title counterparts will have played, thus clearing the way for the dubbed product. All sub-titled versions will be taken off Latin-American screens completely thereafter by M-G-M.

Raw Stock Tight, But No Cut Yet

(Continued from page 1)

allocations," Burrows said. "The situation is tight and will remain so for the next month or so, but hope we will get back into a little better balance in November and December."

The situation, he explained, has been made difficult by the pressure from Russia and countries in which the State Department and CIAA are interested and which have number one priorities, but those agencies have been cooperative, and it is believed all requirements can be taken care of provided no emergencies arise, it was explained.

The newsreel situation is different. News stock production is about adequate to take care of newsreel requirements, and the difficulty has arisen from the fact that while a saving in film has been accomplished by limiting reels to 750 feet this has been more than offset by the heavy demand which has required the provision of more prints, and the heavy requirements of OWI and the Army and Navy.

6,135,000 Ft. of Raw Stock for Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 24. — Frank Founce of the U. S. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs' film section, is understood to have assured the native industry that Mexico will receive 6,135,000 additional feet f raw stock for a month.

Production this year, despite weeks lost by industry disputes, is again expected to total about 65 features.

Meeting Postponed

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 24.—The scheduled general membership meeting of the Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California and Arzona today was postponed indefinitely.

Distributors May Testify for Schine

(Continued from page 1)

returned from New York. He said his absence was necessary because he was "working on other phases of the trial." It is believed that Rogers contacted various distributor interests with a view to their having representatives in readiness to testify when Schine defense begins, either late this week or early next.

Pierce followed to the stand Michael Boumansour, former operator of the Plaza Theatre, Malone, N. Y., whose direct and cross-examination has been completed. In cross-examination, Boumansour was confronted with a letter he wrote to the Department of Justice in April, 1941, in which he said: "This is to advise that I have succeeded in disposing of my theatre as planned. I have no further complaints. Everything is satisfactory here."

Pierce, currently engaged in the retail shoe business, was an officer in Young & Whitney, Inc., which operated the Capitol Theatre in Ilion. He testified as to failures he experienced in obtaining product in the face of Schine competition in Herkimer, three miles east of Ilion.

The Capitol was described by Pierce as "the most magnificent house of its kind for a town of the size of Ilion." He said it had 1,300 seats and cost more than $300,000 to build and testified that when Schine took over houses in Herkimer, his buying policy was forced to undergo a change. "I had to play behind both Herkimer and Little Falls," he testified.

Silver, Latta and Hoffman at WB Meet

Executives from three Warner Theaters' zones are meeting in New York this week with Joseph Bernhard, general manager; Harry M. Kalmine, assistant general manager, and other home office executives.

In addition to M. A. Silver, Pittsburgh zone manager, and Harry Feinstein, his assistant, yesterday's arrivals included C. J. Latta, zone manager for Albany territory, and Max Friedman, his film buyer. Also coming, tomorrow, are I. J. Hoffman, New Haven zone manager, and Max Hoffman and Bert Jacocks, film buyers for that area.

Trailer Campaign to Hit 'Proposition 11'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—Theatres in California will give time next week to a trailer campaign against "Proposition 11" on the Nov. 7 ballot. The proposal has been described as meaning an additional tax, ranging from three to five per cent on all avenues of income and providing for filing separate income tax statements monthly.

The trailer, running 90 seconds, made by studios and furnished gratis, lists 11 reasons why the proposition should be defeated.

Gene Kelly to Army

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—Gene Kelly will report for active duty with the Army Nov. 6. His unreleased films include M-G-M's "Anchors Aweigh" and "Ziegfeld Follies."

Reviews

"Sheriff of Sundown"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Oct. 24

THE audience at Hollywood's Hitching Post Theatre, most of whom are veteran Western fans, received producer Stephen Auer's latest offering with audible approval. And well they might, for the picture is a well-constructed, fast-moving tale of cattle-thieves and cowboys. Director Lesley Selander is skilled at this sort of thing and has an interesting story to work with.

Norman Hall's original screenplay has Alan Lane as a wealthy Texas ranch owner who becomes interested in the struggle between the smaller ranchers and a dishonest dealer who buys up cattle at low prices. Lane organizes a cattlemen's cooperative to compete with the dealer and runs afoul of the latter and his men. Thereafter fists fly and bullets whine, until the ends of justice are accomplished and the villain comes to no good end.

Lane is one of the most photogenic of Western heroes, and his pals, Max Terhune and Duncan Renaldo, contribute necessary comedy. Linda Stirling adds feminine interest and Roy Barcroft is the heavy.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date not set. THALIA BELL

"I Accuse My Parents"

(PRC)

Hollywood, Oct. 24

THE subject of juvenile delinquency is getting a little bit worn around the edges. Nevertheless, this Alexander-Stern production manages to present the problem in a new light.

Arthur Caesar's story delves more deeply into the psychological aspects of delinquency than others on the same theme. He shows us a young man who, neglected and misunderstood by his parents, retreats into a world of fantasy. In order to bolster his own self-esteem, the boy becomes involved with a group of racketeers. The money they pay him enables him to play the part of a rich young man-about-town and so impress the little night-club singer with whom he falls in love. Eventually he is drawn into more serious law-breaking, and ends up accused of manslaughter. The judge who tries him has sufficient understanding to suspend his sentence and to lay the blame where a good deal of it belongs: on the boy's parents.

Sam Newfield's direction brings out both emotional and dramatic values. The surprise performance is that turned in by Robert Lowell. It's his first major role and his characterization is sensitive and sympathetic. Mary Beth Hughes is less happily cast. John Miljan, George Meeker and George Lloyd are good in minor roles.

Running time, 68 minutes. "G."* Release date, Oct. 10.

T. B.

"G" denotes general classification.

Studios Seek New Radio Channels

(Continued from page 1)

otherwise could not have been warned of an approaching severe storm.

At the present time the industry has frequencies for point-to-point, ship-to-ship and ship-to-shore service, used over distances varying from 50 to 300 miles, but the point-to-point service is not reliable in many cases because of the low power limit and higher frequencies should be provided, Hogan said.

After the war, it is proposed to add 'walkie-talkie' and studio set service, for which two frequencies are desired; remote control of models and miniatures, for which one frequency will be needed; and transmission, with one frequency, of photographs and drawings.

The Commission has returned to consideration of television, halted last week in order to catch up with the schedule, and is expected to hear Paul Raibourn of Paramount on theatre legislation and other phases of video.

DeVry Names Three

Distributors for three Western territories have been appointed to represent DeVry Corp. in the educational field. They include: American Seating, for California; Industrial Electronic, Oregon and Washington and American School Supply, Colorado.

Carr Sets Rank Films In 11 Countries

(Continued from page 1)

with other Indian business interests joining BD's board.

Immediate distribution has also been secured for 15 Rank productions throughout Free China. The first three British pictures to play China will be Rank's "Blimp," "Happy Breed" and "Great Mr. Handel."

Both distribution and exhibition facilities have been established throughout Egypt, North Africa, Iran, Irak and Palestine, with Rank's Eagle-Lion setting up main Far Eastern offices in Cairo and establishing branches in Baghdad, Teheran, Basra, Jerusalem, Algiers and other cities.

Carr is understood to have visited all of these places and to have arranged for offices and staffs, employing local workers.

Carr also arranged distribution deals, through local existing companies for all of Spain and Portugal.

SAG Names Advisory Group of Ex-chiefs

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—The Screen Actors Guild has created an advisory committee consisting of past presidents, on the suggestion of the present president, George Murphy.

Named to the committee were: James Cagney, Edward Arnold, Robert Montgomery and Ralph Morgan.

Short Subject Review

"The Cross-Eyed Bull"

(United Artists-Morey-Sutherland)

Featuring what is described as a new cartoon development, 'dimensional animation,' credited to producers Larry Morey and John Sutherland, "The Cross-Eyed Bull" is an entertaining novelty with lots of clever music and some novel characters, principally the bull and his 'girl friend,' Rosita, the heifer. The characters are plastic figures which perform on miniature sets, in a manner similar to George Pal's Puppetoon people.

"The Cross-Eyed Bull," first in the new "Daffy Ditties" series, is the story of Rosita's pursuer. He can't fight in the bull-ring because he always sees two toreadors, and Rosita only likes bulls who can fight. But the hero finally gets his opportunity and mashes the country's most prominent bull-fighter. Running time, 10 minutes.

1st SPG Conciliation Meeting a Failure

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—Long strained relations between the Screen Publicists Guild and the producers appeared approaching a rupture today when the first joint meeting with Earl J. Ruddy, U. S. Department of Labor conciliator, ended unsatisfactorily. Both sides will present their position to the conciliator within a week, following which indications are that the conciliator will certify the case as a dispute to the War Labor Board.

A SPG spokesman said general membership meetings probably will be called at the weekend to vote the necessary authority.

Universal Starts on 'Climax' Promotions

'Hank' Linet, executive assistant to Maurice Bergman, Universal's Eastern advertising-publicity director, left yesterday for Cincinnati, Dayton and Columbus to supervise openings of the Midwest premieres of "The Climax." Charles Simonelli of the home office staff left for Pittsburgh yesterday also, while Harry Keller is in Atlanta and Harry McDonald arrived in New England yesterday; next week Bob Ungerfeld and Bob Wile will be assigned out-of-town spots, all for "Climax" promotions.

Other members of the home office staff will be assigned to the film for extra campaigns later.

'Click' Discontinued

Publication of *Click* magazine will be suspended following the January, 1945, issue, it has been reported by Walter H. Annenberg, president of Triangle Publications, publishers of Guide Magazines and *Seventeen*, a new one.

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Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 81 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1944 TEN CENTS

EDUCATIONAL FILM PROJECT IN WORK

Trend Toward Exclusives for Theatre Video

Alternative Seen Legal Battle with Radio

Theatre owners who attempt to take television programs off the air and use them as part of their regular theatre presentations in the postwar without paying for them, will face legal complications, it is generally agreed in informed film-television industry quarters.

To avoid a showdown on the issue with the broadcasters, which spokesmen predict is destined to wind up eventually before the U. S. Supreme Court, the present trend in industry circles is to plan for programs which would be made available exclusively to theatre owners either through special frequency channels now being sought by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers through the Federal Communications Commission or

(*Continued on page 7*)

U.S. Testimony in Schine Case Ends

BUFFALO, Oct. 25.—The Government's witnesses in the Schine anti-trust suit have all been heard, Department of Justice attorney Robert L. Wright announced this afternoon as William C. Smalley of Cooperstown, N. Y., operator of a 14-theatre circuit, completed testimony that dealt chiefly with his inability to get product for Norwich after Schine took over the Colonial there in 1933.

Wright did not formally rest the Government's case, explaining that he desired to introduce documentary evidence and perhaps present oral arguments. Federal Judge John Knight, who is presiding, will not be present at tomorrow's session, the attorneys agreeing to submit documents for identification in his absence.

Breen Coastbound After Hays Talks

Joseph I. Breen, head of the Production Code Administration, returned to Hollywood yesterday after four days in New York with Will Hays and other MPPDA heads. His discussions centered around general reactions of the public to recent product.

It was disclosed that only one protest, that of an unnamed Metropoli-

(*Continued on page 6*)

WB Paid Teddington Help Four Months

London, Oct. 25.—Having kept its Teddington Studio staff of 120 on full pay since destruction of the plant by robot bombs last July, Warners, realizing that there is apparently no hope of obtaining priorities for early rebuilding, is paying off all but a few caretakers.

The discharges are expected to ease the labor shortage at Denham and other studios.

Theatres Get Free Posters for Sixth

The War Activities Committee for the Sixth War Loan Drive yesterday announced here that all showmen will be serviced with three special one-sheet posters for the $14,000,000,000 drive. This marks the first time in any war loan drive that three posters, each promoting the three "musts" in the campaign," "War Bond Premieres," "Children's Matinees" and the "National Free Movie Day," will be made available free to exhibitors. Posters will be available soon at National Screen exchanges.

Proper procedure for requests for use of military personnel or equipment during the drive was explained to exhibitors yesterday in a memorandum from Tom W. Baily, WAC consultant to the Treasury Department, who said, "Exhibitors desiring to utilize war heroes, military bands, personnel or equipment, should first make the request of the local WAC bond chairman, who in turn will apply

(*Continued on page 6*)

$300,000,000 Tax for Year

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Federal ticket tax collections reported by exhibitors in September on August admissions amounted to $29,042,668, bringing receipts for the first nine months of the year to over $200,000,000 and indicating a total revenue for 1944 of between $290,000,000 and $300,000,000, according to figures released tonight by the Internal Revenue Bureau.

The September tax collections on August admissions were $5,000,000 below the August receipts (on July admissions) of $34,168,118, but were $15,000,000 above the September, 1943, revenue of $13,926,347, the bureau reported. The aggregate for the first nine months was $208,051,838, against $119,793,645 last year.

The special report for the Third

(*Continued on page 6*)

Levinson and Martin On Warner Board

Howard Levinson of Warners' home office legal staff, and T. J. Martin, auditor, have been elected to the board of directors of Warner Bros. Pictures Distributing Corp., filling the places in the distributing unit vacated by H. S. Bareford, who is on leave for service with the Army, and Joseph Hazen, who left the company recently.

H. M. Warner Discussing His Plan with Other Film Company Leaders

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 25.—Active cooperation of other companies in an industry-wide program for the production and distribution of educational films on an extended scale is understood to have been placed in motion during the recent New York visit of Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., who returned today from a month's stay in the East, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learns from authoritative sources.

The project, nurtured for a long time by Warner as one of the next important steps in film industry development, not only from a commercial standpoint, but as a public-service contribution, still is in a formulative stage, but is reportedly arousing increased interest on

(*Continued on page 7*)

Arthur Injunction Filed in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 25.—The injunction suit to restrain the Department of Justice from enforcing its arbitration system set up by the consent decree, was filed in the U. S. District Court here today by Russell Hardy, attorney for Harry Arthur, Jr., and the St. Louis Amusement Co.

The injunction attacks the constitutionality of the decree and asks that hearing on the complaint of Adolph Rosecan, now set for November 13, be dismissed. Twenty days are allowed for defendants in the suit to file a reply.

St. Louis Stagehands Hearing Concluded

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 25.—The hearing on the stagehands' dispute with St. Louis theatres over the number of stagehands to be employed was concluded this afternoon before Regional Labor Board arbitrator Jules E. Kohn of Kansas City after the submission of rebuttal testimony on behalf of the theatres. Kohn, who will visit several of the theatres figuring in the testimony before returning to Kansas City, indicated that a decision will not be handed down for several weeks.

Distribution in France on Eve of Being Returned to Film Companies

Distribution of films in France is in the process of being turned over to U. S. and other Allied film companies and as a result of the new division of France into civilian and military zones, the Office of War Information and/or the domestic companies will distribute in civilian areas, according to informed sources of the OWI overseas film bureau here. The OWI's Psychological Warfare Division will, of course, retain distribution in areas of military operations, operating through the Army.

Chaotic transportation conditions in France will hamper private film distribution, but the companies, still needing the military for transportation, will receive a priority rating.

The OWI is currently distributing 10 prints per picture on each of the super-imposed and dubbed versions of Hollywood films. The OWI, exercising control of shipping facilities, will retain an advisory capacity to determine what films are best suited for French distribution by Allied companies.

The Psychological Warfare Branch will continue to control film distribution in Italy indefinitely, it is understood.

Wakoff's Buying Starts Next Week

Arthur Wakoff, for 10 years in charge of film buying and booking for the Walter Reade circuit, has left that post to establish a new buying service for independent exhibitors served out of New York-New Jersey exchanges. Wakoff has already lined up 10 theatres, mostly in Northern New Jersey.

Wakoff said that he will buy for each account individually and will not "pit" theatres against each other in deals. He is working on a corporate name for his new organization. The entry of Wakoff into the local field gives this territory five buying-booking organizations.

Robert Jonasson, with Reade for many years, succeeds Wakoff as buyer for Reade's 45 theatres.

10 in M-G-M Block 10, But No 'Test Pilot'

M-G-M's block No. 10 will embrace nine or 10 pictures, but the return of "Test Pilot," previously scheduled, will not be among them. The decision to cancel the reissue is twofold: M-G-M has sufficient product without it, and the release of "30 Seconds Over Tokyo," with Spencer Tracy, would have the star competing against himself; he is also in "Test Pilot."

Group 10 will have "Meet Me in St. Louis" for the leadoff, with the world premiere of that picture coming in St. Louis late in November. Edward Carrier, M-G-M special representative, left last night for St. Louis from New York to start work on the opening.

May Name Successor To Willkie Today

Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, is expected to preside today at a meeting of the board at which a successor may be chosen to fill the vacancy for the post of board chairman created by the death of Wendell Willkie. Despite the speculation over who will fill the post, the possibility exists that the company will permit the post to be unoccupied for the present.

In the event that Skouras, who has been bothered by a cold for several days, is unable to attend, W. C. Michel, executive vice-president, will preside.

Zanuck Undecided on Willkie's 'One World'

OMAHA, Oct. 25.—Before leaving Omaha for Hollywood following the Midwest premiere of "Wilson," Darryl F. Zanuck revealed that he has not yet decided whether to produce "One World," the Wendell Willkie book, film rights to which 20th Century-Fox holds. He said the scenario is written, but that he wishes to consult Mrs. Willkie and the publishers.

Mr. Zanuck said he thought the Willkie book "will help solve world problems" and that if it is produced "Spencer Tracy would be the man to play Wendell Willkie."

Personal Mention

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio foreign distribution vice-president, is expected from Rio de Janeiro on Monday.

•

SGT. LEO H. HANDEL, formerly director of M-G-M's Audience Research Department, and now with the Fifth Army in Italy, is doing research work among German prisoners of war as an interpreter with the 91st Infantry Division.

•

NAT WOLF, Warner zone manager in Cleveland, is co-captain of the local Community Fund Drive team covering hotels and amusements. Assisting him are exhibitors JOHN D. KALAFAT and JACK SHULMAN.

•

LEAH MARCUS of Warners' home office purchasing department will be married to LT. HOWARD ZALKIN next Sunday in New York. LT. ZALKIN recently was released from a prisoner-of-war camp in Rumania.

•

JACK LEFTON, brother of PRC franchise owner, NAT L. LEFTON, and branch manager of the Cleveland PRC office, is ill at St. Vincent's Charity Hospital, Cleveland.

•

MRS. CHARLES RICH, wife of the Cleveland Warner district manager, was operated on last week and is convalescing at the Hanna House of the University Hospital, in Cleveland.

•

EUGENE W. LEAKE, member of the Loew board of directors, has returned to New York from the Coast.

•

SAM PINANSKI of M & P Theatres, has returned to Boston following a New York visit.

•

W. STEWART MCDONALD, Warner Theatres executive, is visiting Chicago, Milwaukee and Cleveland.

•

BILL SCHWARTZ, Monogram booker in Philadelphia, became the father of a baby girl, DEBORAH, last week.

•

HERBERT J. BIBERMAN, RKO Radio writer-director, will arrive in New York today.

CLAUDE F. LEE, Paramount public relations director, has returned from Tampa, Fla., where he addressed the Kiwanis Club's district meeting on war finance.

•

JOSEPH LOSEY, former M-G-M director now in service at the Signal Corps Photographic Center, Long Island City, was married recently to LOUISE STUART, former Paramount actress and former wife of JACK MOSS of Columbia.

•

T-SGT. BEN GRIMM, JR., son of RKO's advertising manager, visited his father's headquarters this week, on furlough after 30 bombing missions in Europe, during which he won the Air Medal and two oak leaf clusters.

•

LIEUT. STANLEY ODLUM, son of RKO board chairman FLOYD ODLUM, has been captured by the Nazis in Austria, where his plane was shot down.

•

ERNEST SCANLON, Vanguard vice-president and treasurer, who has been visiting in New York, will leave for the Coast tomorrow.

•

SAM SCHECTER, manager of the Colonial Theatre, Hartford, Conn., is the father of a baby girl, JANIE, born Tuesday.

•

RICHARD MEALAND will leave today for Hollywood to take up his new duties as head of the studio story and writing department.

•

LIEUT. JEFF LIVINGSTON, bomber pilot and former M-G-M short subjects publicist, has been located as a prisoner of war in Germany.

•

WILMA FREEMAN, in charge of tie-ups for United Artists, is en route to New York from Hollywood.

•

JACK GOLDSTEIN, Vanguard Eastern publicity and exploitation chief, will leave for the Coast today.

•

FRANK LOFTUS of English Films is the father of a son, DOUGLAS KENT LOFTUS, born Oct. 17.

Korda Gives $20,000 For Film Study Here

Oxford University has accepted an offer of Sir Alexander Korda to defray up to $20,000 of expenses of a commission to be appointed by the University to visit America and study dramatic and instructional films at universities here, and make recommendations of the best methods of such study at Oxford, according to press dispatches reaching here yesterday from London.

Vanguard Loses Roof

David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films here expects to be without office facilities for a period after Nov. 1 when the company must vacate its present quarters at 515 Madison Avenue. The company's new quarters at 400 Madison will not be vacated by its present occupants until Nov. 1 and it will take time for redecorations.

Alperson on Coast to Arrange for 'Beauty'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 25.—E. L. Alperson, 20th Century-Fox's only "outside" producer, is here from New York arranging for production of six "B" pictures which he will deliver over a period of three years. The first, "Black Beauty," is being planned for this season and will be in addition to the 12 "B" films to be made for the company under Ben Silvey's supervision.

$218,011 GPE Net For Third Quarter

General Precision Equipment Corp. and subsidiaries report for the three months ended Sept. 30, 1944, a consolidated net profit of $218,011, after provision for depreciation, Federal taxes, renegotiation and contingencies, subject to year end adjustments.

Lasky Resigns As Warner Producer

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 25.—Jesse L. Lasky, producer for Warners since 1941, has severed his connection with the studio, and "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," which had been assigned to him, will be turned over to another producer, it was learned here today.

Lasky, however, may renew his association with the company, it is understood, if he finds important properties or story ideas such as "Sergeant York," which launched his Warner association. That film was followed by "The Adventures of Mark Twain."

'U' Will Honor Rydge At Farewell Lunch

Norman B. Rydge, chairman of Greater Union Theatres of Sydney, Australia, will be given a farewell luncheon by J. H. Seidelman, president of Universal International, tomorrow at the Hampshire House.

Scheduled to be present are: J. Cheever Cowdin, Nate Blumberg, William A. Scully, Charles D. Prutzman, John J. O'Connor, S. Machnovitch, Capt. Harold Auten, E. T. Gomersall, Maurice Bergman, Fred Meyers, F. J. A. McCarthy, A. J. O'Keefe, Adolph Schimel, C. A. Kirby, Eugene Walsh, Arthur Novak, Keith Goldsmith, James J. Jordan, Harold Sugarman, Morris Alin and Fortunat Baronat. Rydge will leave shortly for Australia after two months in Hollywood and New York.

Set Wage Boosts for Detroit, Denver Help

Film company exchange operations heads and representatives of the IATSE met here yesterday and signed applications for submission to Regional War Labor Boards having jurisdiction over Detroit and Denver film exchanges for 10 per cent wage increases for service employees in those exchanges.

A further meeting has been set for Nov. 2 to consider additional applications for exchange service locals in all of the 31 exchange centers, eventually expected to file with the regional boards in their areas. The 10 per cent wage increase has already been approved for the workers in Seattle exchanges.

First French Visa Asked for Miggins

Twentieth Century-Fox International Corp. has made application to the State Department for a passport to France for Ben Miggins, the company's European manager, the first instance of a film company applying for such a passport.

The Department of State announced this week that it would accept applications, but warned that transportation would be severely limited.

MGM Shows 'Tokio'

M-G-M will trade show "Thirty Seconds Over Tokio" in all exchange centers on Nov. 13.

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Ann Sheridan and "The Doughgirls"

COAST TO COAST NOW
A HONEY ABOUT LOVE AND
MONEY FROM WARNERS

Co-Starring

ALEXIS SMITH · JACK CARSON · JANE WYMAN · IRENE MANNING · CHAS. RUGGLES · EVE ARDEN

JOHN RIDGELY • JOHN ALEXANDER • CRAIG STEVENS • BARBARA BROWN • ALAN MOWBRAY

Directed by JAMES V. KERN

Screen Play, James V. Kern, Sam Hellman • Add. Dialogue, Wilkie Mahoney • From Play by Joseph A. Fields • Produced by Max Gordon

Produced by MARK HELLINGER

JACK L. WARNER, *Executive Producer*

"GET SET FOR THE SIXTH WAR LOAN"

A PUSHOVER ...IS HE?

ASK A MARINE BACK FROM THE BLOODY BEACHES OF TARAWA

PUT IT TO THIS BLUEJACKET SURVIVOR OF A PROUD SHIP

ASK THIS FLYER WHO'S FACED THE HELL-FIRE IN THE SKIES

Mr. Exhibitor: Perhaps you don't need a jolt - but lots of Americans do to bring them out from under their complacency!

For the facts are - we haven't won the battle of the Pacific by a long shot - nor is everything over in Europe!

Peace is still to be earned - by hard fighting. Peace is still to be bought - by the dollars Americans put into War Bonds.

The European war has been expensive but the Pacific War will cost far more! Fleets of planes, fleets of ships, armies of supplies and men will be required - all to be transported over vast distances!

And this all costs money - and that's where you come in! With every resource of your theatre - every ounce of your salesmanship and showmanship needed to put the necessary drive behind the Smashing Sixth!

So put all your 'know-how' and savvy behind those War Bond Premieres, make Free Movie Day roll up a record in your theatres - put across the Children's Premiere in your community - and, what's more, don't let down a moment any day!

Let's go!

and show America

what the "movies"

can do for America

Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N. Y. C.

'Lonely' Gets Plentiful $55,000 in LA

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 25.—Cary Grant in "None But the Lonely Heart" was off flying to a $55,000 start in the Pantages-Hillstreet tandem, which averages $36,400. "Since You Went Away" was still doubling average business, in its second week at the Egyptian - Los Angeles - Ritz setup. Weather was variable.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 25:

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,200).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $15,500).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $9,500).
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
"Mademoiselle Fifi" (RKO)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,200).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Girl Rush" (RKO)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $19,700).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $24,100).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $14,900).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Girl Rush" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $16,700).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (HOLLYWOOD)—(1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (DOWNTOWN) — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $8,700).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,500).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
WARNER (HOLLYWOOD) — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,070. (Average: $17,000).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
WARNER (DOWNTOWN)—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,852. (Average: $18,700).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,259. (Average: $15,200).

Breen Coastbound After Hays Talks

(*Continued from page* 1)

tan Opera star, had been received at the Hays office on the gruesomeness of recent newsreels depicting the execution of Fascists in Rome. It was said that some thought was also given to the possibility of some Hollywood producers trying to use more realistic murders in their productions as a result of the so-called "clean bill of health" given the newsreels by the public.

Variety Reelects Skouras

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 25. — Charles Skouras, head of National Theatres, was reelected president of local Variety. All other offices were also reelected.

Free Posters to Theatres For 6th War Loan Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

to the local War Finance Committee chairman. Request from the latter will be given proper consideration by the military. This applies to all local military cooperation."

To Hold Regional Meet In Omaha on 6th Drive

OMAHA, Oct. 25.—About 20 exhibitors and distributors from the Minneapolis area will attend a Sixth War Loan regional Omaha meeting at the Fontenelle Hotel here on Friday, it was reported by Norman Pyle, publicity director of the drive for this area. Among them will be John Friedl, regional WAC chairman; W. A. Steffes, exhibitor chairman; W. H. Workman, distributor representative; Harold Kaplan and Henry Greene, Jr., who have replaced E. R. Rubin and Ben Friedman as Minnesota co-chairmen of independent exhibitors; Ed Kraus and Mike Cooper, North Dakota co-chairmen; Fred Larkin, South Dakota exhibitor chairman, and all Minneapolis exchange managers.

A barbecue Texas steer dinner will be served as a result of the wager between R. J. O'Donnell, Fifth Loan national chairman and A. H. Blank, Iowa exhibitor chairman, each of whom bet their respective state would top the other in fifth drive bond sales. O'Donnell will finance the barbecue, Iowa topping Texas in the last campaign.

First General Meeting on 6th

First general New York area meeting for the 6th War Loan Drive was held yesterday with representatives of both general chairman Malcolm Kingsberg's committee and the War Finance Committee hearing plans and special events to be utilized in the campaign. Kingsberg opened the meeting and introduced Major L. E. Thompson, New York campaign director, who presided. Eight other speakers addressed the gathering, all of whom received a special bulletin prepared by the New York publicity committee.

400 At San Francisco Sixth Loan Meeting

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 25.—More than 400 of the industry of Northern California attended yesterday's Sixth War Loan regional meeting here and pledged to the national drive committee to make the coming campaign "the biggest in the history of the industry."

Headed by national drive chairman Harry Brandt, speakers included W. F. Crockett, vice-chairman; Ned Depinet, distributor chairman; John Hertz, Jr., publicity chairman; Leo Wolcott and Hugh Bruen, co-chairmen; war heroes Capt. Ray Wild and Lt. L. R. Largey; Mayor Roger D. Lapham of this city, and Rotus Harvey, Northern California chairman.

Flinn to Coast on War Loan Trailers

John C. Flinn, co-ordinator of the Hollywood division of the WAC, will return to Hollywood today, following a short stay in New York, after conferring with the WAC National Committee regarding exhibition of two war loan trailers. The first will star Jennifer Jones. It was produced by David O. Selznick and directed by Alfred Hitchcock from a script by Stephen Longstreet. The second was made by Paramount, starring Eddie Bracken, from a script by Robert Lees and Fred Ringold, directed by Joseph Youngerman and produced by William Meikeljohn.

Waller to Handle 6th Writing Stunts

Tom Waller has been loaned by Barney Balaban, Paramount president, to the 6th War Loan drive committee. Waller will handle all national syndicate writing, planting and stunts in connection with the drive, co-operating with Max A. Cohen, in charge of special events.

Amsterdam Starts War Chest Drive

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25. — Official start of the local industry's participation in the United War Chest took place at a dinner of the motion picture division at the Hotel Warwick this week under direction of division leader Ben Amsterdam. The local trade's quota this year has been moderately increased, with the following set: Stanley-Warner, $28,500; distributors, $17,000; independent exhibitors, $25,000 for a total of $70,500.

Mrs. Edna R. Carroll, censor head, leads the film companies; Ted Schlanger heads the Stanley-Warner theatres, with J. Ellis Shipman as chief aide, while David Barrist and Jack Beresin handle independents.

NYU Selects 'Dinner'

New York University's school of education has selected 20th Century-Fox's "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" as the outstanding example of script writing for "originality and excellence," according to Professor Frederic M. Thrasher. The script was written by Wanda Tuchock.

$300,000,000 Tax Yield Seen for '44

(*Continued from page* 1)

New York District showed that four-fifths of the drop in national collections in September was centered in the Broadway, New York, sector, where collections were but $1,778,574 against $5,792,585 in August, and only slightly above the $1,706,121 of September, 1943. It appears that the biggest part of the slump was at legitimate theatres, un-cooled in the terrific August heat wave. The report showed that box office collections here dropped from $5,032,407 to $1,463,715, receipts on tickets sold by brokers from $27,570 to $12,038, and from admissions to roof gardens and cabarets from $732,708 to $302,821.

Rogers in Boston Nov. 1

Roy Rogers, Republic's Western star, will begin personal appearances at the Boston Garden Nov. 1 for 12 days, following the Sunday closing of the 'Championship Rodeo' at Madison Square Garden here. Steve Edwards, Republic's director of publicity, left here yesterday for Boston to work out Rogers' campaign.

$47,000 Gross For 'SYWA' Is Chi's Best

CHICAGO, Oct. 25.—Two long-awaited attractions sparked Loop business this week. "Since You Went Away," at the State Lake, grossed a record-breaking $47,000 in its first week, sending some of the overflow trade into other houses. "Wilson" had a satisfactory $20,000 opening week at the Apollo.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 26:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (80c-$1.10) 6 days (opening night invitational). Gross: $20,000. (Average: 35c-95c scale: $11,400).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c). Stage: Paul Draper and Revue. Gross: $47,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Swing Hostess" (PRC)
DOWNTOWN—(1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c). Stage: Carl Ravazza and Orchestra, and the Mills Brothers. Gross: $16,000.
"Summer Storm" (UA) 5 days, 2nd week
"The Great Moment" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.) 2 days
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,100).
"Cry of the Werewolf" (Col.)
"The Soul of a Monster" (Col.)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,100).
"Ever Since Venus" (Col.)
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c). Stage: "Blind Date," with Joy Hodges. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.) 6 days, 2nd week
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.) 1 day
PALACE—(2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Janie" (WB) 5 days, 3rd week
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox) 2 days
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $47,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000).

Call Jack Warner In Hillside Case

Norman H. Samuelson, counsel for Hillside Amusement Corp., operator of the Mayfair Theatre, Hillside, N. J., filed in Federal Court yesterday notice of the examination of Jack L. Warner, production vice-president of Warner Brothers, on Nov. 2, in connection with Hillside's $900,000 anti-trust suit against seven distributing companies and their subsidiaries. The examination of Warner will be held here in the law offices of Hays, Podell and Schulman.

The purpose of the examination, the notice states, is to obtain, by means of oral examination of Warner, the deposition of Warner Brothers Pictures, for use in the trial of the action. Warner will be examined on matters relevant to the subject matter involved in alleged conspiracies in distribution of features allegedly resulting in actual damages of $300,000 to Hillside.

Columbia Honors Tomaso

Pfc. Ralph Tomaso, veteran of 32 months in the Pacific, was guest at a luncheon given by Columbia yesterday at Gallagher's. Tomaso, formerly of Columbia, holds the Infantry Battalion Medal and has been recommended for the Silver Star. He was given $250 in War Bonds by Jack Cohn.

Industry Education Film Plan in Work

(*Continued from page* 1)

the part of other film company heads, with a coordinated plan of activity now being discussed.

One of the many influencing factors in the project, which is a direct outgrowth of World War II, is understood to be the growth, reception and admittedly strong effect of incentive, morale, teaching and institutional propaganda motion pictures in war plants and in places occupied by the Armed Forces.

Schools, colleges, libraries, civic groups and even large industries, many of which are adopting motion pictures for entertainment, morale and instructional activities, are understood to be included in the over-all industry project.

Also interesting in this connection is the report that Doris Warner LeRoy, daughter of Harry Warner, and Harry Wanger, brother of Walter Wanger, are forming a new organization to make 16mm. pictures. Mrs. LeRoy also has been for some time reported working on a project of the nature of the industry plan.

Pryor in Radio

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25. — Robert Pryor, head of RKO exploitation for this territory, has been named station promotion manager of WCAU here.

Blackmore Dies

Thomas E. Blackmore, 40, for the past 12 years an artist and designer for Max Fine, builder of theatre fronts, died here yesterday.

Blue Network Asks For Name Change

Washington, Oct. 25.—The Blue Network Co. today filed application with the Federal Communications Commission to change its name to the American Broadcasting Company in the first step toward the ultimate designation of the 195-station chain as "the ABC Network". The parent company was bought from the Radio Corporation of America in 1943 by Edward L. Noble for $8,000,000.

Court Order Halts SOEG Expenditures

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 25.—Six dissidents who several weeks ago protested the Screen Office Employes Guild levy of one to two dollars per member for financing political action and were overruled by a membership vote at special meeting, today obtained a temporary restraining order from Superior Court Judge Clarence Hanson preventing the expenditure of union funds for political purposes pending a hearing Nov. 1.

Party for Blanchar

The French Press and Information Service will hold a cocktail party and press conference at the Ritz Carlton Hotel here tomorrow afternoon honoring Pierre Blanchar, French screen star and resistance leader.

Exclusives Seen for Theatre Video

(*Continued from page* 1)

through facilities provided by facilities of American Telephone and Telegraph Co. This is the type of television programming for theatres envisaged by Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice-president of RKO Television Corp.

The fundamental issue, it is pointed out, is one of copyright. If special features are picked up for theatres from such places as Madison Square Garden upon an exclusive basis with a theatre paying a fee to those holding the rights to telecast the program, there will be no issue involved, it is said. However, if a program of this nature is picked up by a broadcast network for televising to all set owners with a sponsor paying for the program, theatre owners, it is said, will run into difficulties if they use the program in their theatres. The issue will be further confused if theatre owners use the sponsor's advertising, for in that case, the theatres carrying the television program as part of their regular film presentations would be using their screens for gratis advertising.

MPA Approves Insurance

Motion Picture Associates' board of directors has approved a $1,000 insurance plan for members. The plan will be submitted on a closed ballot to members at the next meeting for final approval.

The MPA has pledged up to $5,000 in bonds for the forthcoming Sixth War Loan Drive.

Keep Video Lanes: RCA

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Declaring that television service and low-cost home receivers can be offered to the public as soon after the war as materials and manufacturing facilities permit, Thomas F. Joyce, RCA executive, today urged the Federal Communications Commission to permit television to go ahead in its present channels, thus opening the way for added postwar employment and greater economic expansion.

"Given a green light on its present channels, television will provide employment for at least 300,000 persons by the end of its fifth full production year when a television and radio retail business of $1,442,000,000 should have been attained," Joyce stated. Properly encouraged television may be a major factor in developing full postwar employment and preventing any depression, he added.

Dr. C. B. Joliffe, RCA engineer, yesterday urged the FCC to continue television frequency channels at present ranges because to move them to a higher range would necessitate the development of a new television system that would take five years or more to develop.

Wilk Supervising Talent

Warners' Eastern talent department will continue to function, but on a limited scale, under the supervision of Jacob Wilk, Eastern production head, with Zelma Brookov acting as talent contact.

Enticing Aurora Miranda, with Billy Daniels, fascinates audiences with a tantalizing Pan-American dance number featured in "Brazil," Republic's gala musical hit, sure to break box office records. ADVT.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Sept. 30	STRANGE AFFAIR Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D—78 mins. (6016)	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (500)	TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele O—54 mins. (368)	(First Block) RAINBOW ISLAND (color) Eddie Bracken Dorothy Lamour C—96 mins. (4401)		STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345) STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) ATLANTIC CITY Constance Moore Brad Taylor M—87 mins. (327)	(Seventh Block) (1943-'44) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431) BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434) MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432) MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	(Second Block, (Sept. Releases) SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503) GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505) DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)	(Special) SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Joseph Cotten Shirley Temple Jennifer Jones D—171 mins.	SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—83 mins. (9017)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant C—118 mins. (403)
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M—68 mins. (6028)		A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger 67 mins.	TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton D—88 mins. (4402)		CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake O—56 mins. (3314)				THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (9030)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—56 mins. (404)
Oct. 14	SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch George Zucco D—67 mins. (6021)	(Ninth Block) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins. (501)		NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather James Brown C—76 mins. (4403)		CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson O—56 mins. (452) MY BUDDY Donald Barry D—69 mins. (403)				BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Kirby Grant Freddy Slack orch. M—70 mins. (9024)	THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid D—101 mins. (405)
Oct. 21	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D—61 mins. (6035)	BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502)	ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Marjorie Rambeau D	OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Diana Lynn Gail Russell C—81 mins. (4404)	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—74 mins (41PS) (1943-'44)					THE CLIMAX (Color) Susanna Foster Boris Karloff Turhan Bey D—86 mins. (9007)	
Oct. 28	THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix D—60 mins. (6022)	MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—(504)	LAW OF THE VALLEY Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O (1943-'44)	DARK MOUNTAIN Ellen Drew Robert Lowery D—56 mins. (4405)	WILD HORSE PHANTOM Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—(1944-'45)	MY BUDDY Donald Barry D—69 mins. (403)	MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins. (530)			
Nov. 4	SGT. MIKE Larry Parks D CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS Charles Starrett O—56 mins.	WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins. (503)		(Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins.	I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville C—68 mins. I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell D	STORM OVER LISBON D—86 mins. (323) GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES (re-issue) Gene Autry O—65 mins. (3307)	HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)			BOWERY TO BROADWAY Donald O'Connor Maria Montez Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey M—96 mins. (9072)	THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Faye Emerson D—(406)
Nov. 11	THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon D	MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—118 mins. (505)		(Second Block) FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Color) Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova D—113 mins. (4408)	BLUEBEARD John Carradine Jean Parker Nils Asther D—70 mins. THE GREAT MIKE Robert Henry Stuart Erwin D—73 mins.	END OF THE ROAD Edward Norris June Storey D—(402) 51 mins. SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN Alan Lane Linda Stirling O—56 mins. (463)	(Special Release) THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW (International) E. G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey D—99 mins. (582)	(Third Block) (Oct. Release) THE BIG NOISE Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy C—74 mins. (506)		DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker Paul Kelly D—64 mins. (9026)	
Nov. 18		KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—103 mins. (506)	ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—76 mins.	MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds D—84 mins. (4410)		VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY Wild Bill Elliott Peggy Stewart O—55 mins. (3315)	(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN (International Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (1944-'45)	IN THE MEAN-TIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Frank Latimore D—72 mins. (507)		RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford Delta Rhythm Boys D—63 mins. (9029)	
Nov. 25		MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (507)	THE JADE MASK Sidney Toler D	THE MAN IN HALF-MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker D—92 mins. (4407)	CASTLE OF CRIMES Keneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall D		(First Block) (1944-'45) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505)	IRISH EYES ARE SMILING Monte Wooley Dick Haymes June Haver M—90 mins. (508)		ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Charles Korvin Ella Raines D	THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Jane Wyman Jack Carson C—102 mins.
Dec. 2	SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks D	NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Reissue) Jeannette Mac Donald Nelson Eddy M—80 mins. (508)	CISCO KID RETURNS Duncan Rinaldo O	AND NOW TOMORROW Loretta Young Alan Ladd D—85 mins. (4406)	ROGUES GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond C		NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501) GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins. (504)	(Fourth Block) (Nov. Release) LAURA Gene Tierney D—88 mins. SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Michael O'Shea M		MURDER IN The BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook John Litel D—61 mins. (9034)	
Dec. 9	STEPPING OUT Fred Brady Jeff Donnell William Wright C	(Special) AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards D—151 mins. (510)	BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids D—62 mins. (409)	ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker C—76 mins. (4409)	OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe Al St. John O		TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines O—87 mins. (503) THE MASTER RACE Carl Esmond Osa Massen Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey D—96 mins. (502)	THE WAY AHEAD (British) David Niven D		HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Jr. C	

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 82 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1944 | TEN CENTS

PCA Is Not a Censor, Golden Tells Editors

Enlightens Press on Self-Regulation

BOSTON, Oct. 26.—"The press has been the greatest single force in the progress and position that the motion picture industry has acquired," but newspaper editors and correspondents too often brand as "censorship" the functioning of the industry's self-regulatory Production Code Administration in Hollywood, Edward A. Golden, independent producer, told a group of editors and newspaper executives of the New England Newspapers' Advertising Bureau at its sixth annual meeting at the Parker House here. "You have been our greatest critic as well as our best booster," he added.

The PCA, continued Golden, "helps the production executive in the performance of

(*Continued on page 7*)

Exchanges to Close For Bond Meetings

To influence all exhibitors to be present at the regional key city meetings now in progress with national committee members of the 6th War Loan drive, all companies have agreed to close their exchanges to exhibitors during the day of the meeting in their cities, Ned E. Depinet, distribution division chairman revealed yesterday.

This policy has been adopted by the

(*Continued on page 7*)

McKenzie Funeral Services Today

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 26.—Private funeral services will be held for Maurice McKenzie at his home in Pacific Palisades today. McKenzie, 62, died yesterday following a long illness. For the past three years he had been in the 20th Century-Fox story department, and prior to that he had served as executive assistant to Will H. Hays, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America.

McKenzie left the MPPDA in April, 1940, and in late 1941 joined 20th-Fox as assistant to Col. Jason Joy at the Coast studio. His widow survives.

WAC May Sponsor Jubilee Dinner

Consideration of a golden jubilee banquet to observe the 50th anniversary of the commercialization of motion pictures is understood to be on the agenda of a War Activities Committee meeting of its executives here today.

The WAC would sponsor the event, for the industry, presumably before the end of this, the 50th year.

Para. Buys 50% of Cobian Circuit

Paramount has acquired a 50 per cent interest in the Cuban circuit of 13 theatres of Ramos Cobian. Paramount will put up 50 per cent of the capital required for the circuits operation and will participate equally in the net profits. Cobian will retain, however, active management.

Final contracts on the deal will be signed today, together with another phase of the deal whereby Cobian acquires a five-year film franchise, starting Dec. 1, for the company's entire program.

Cobian, who also operates 22 theatres in Puerto Rico, is building a new house in Havana. It is understood that Paramount, by virtue of its partnership, will also participate in any new construction that Cobian undertakes in Cuba.

Cite Program Cost of Video

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Theatre television is as much a reality as home television, but video program production is going to run into financial problems of the first magnitude, the Federal Communications Commission holding hearings on the question of the reallocation of frequencies, was told today.

Testifying before the Commission as it delved into the present and post war status of television, Allen B DuMont, head of DuMont laboratories, asserted that it is entirely possible to project large images on theatre screens and "there are few motion picture executives who aren't looking into the possibilities offered theatres by way of this new medium."

Theatrical circuits, he said, might be

(*Continued on page 7*)

20th-Fox Declares Three Dividends

The 20th Century-Fox board of directors, at a meeting here yesterday at which Spyros Skouras presided, declared three quarterly cash dividends and voted the retirement of $186,700 of preferred stock. No action was taken on a successor to the late Wendell Willkie as board chairman. The board sent an expression of sympathy to the Willkie family.

The board declared a dividend of

(*Continued on page 7*)

WLB Approves Raises for Hundreds Here

Home Office, Exchange Workers to Benefit

Several hundred home office and exchange workers will receive salary increases as a result of approval of new contract scale by the Regional War Labor Board here, while, additionally, home offices started yesterday to pay off 61 weeks of retroactive pay to publicists, with a RWLB-approved increase also going into effect today.

Office workers in Universal's home office and those in the New York exchanges of Warners, Paramount, Universal and RKO will receive increases, job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales, and retroactive salary.

Warners yesterday was the first to pay off the retroactive wage increases to home office publicists, following

(*Continued on page 7*)

SOPEG Membership Rejects Pact Offer

Membership of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, employed in the home offices of Paramount, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, RKO and Columbia, voted at a meeting at the Park Central Hotel here last night to reject as insufficient the salary raise and contract offer made by the five companies after three months of negotiations. Some 2,000 office workers are involved.

The meeting also empowered the union negotiating committee to take

(*Continued on page 7*)

Clark Now Colonel at Italy Headquarters

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Kenneth Clark, formerly in charge of MPPDA press relations in New York, has been promoted from the rank for lieutenant-colonel to full colonel, the MPPDA office here reports.

Clark, who joined the Army in 1942 as a major in the Service of Supply here, was assigned to foreign duty with a combat unit in October of that year. He is now attached to Allied Forces headquarters in Italy.

Theatres Taking V-E Day Cue from City Officials

'V-E' Day plans of theatres throughout the country are being governed largely by the wishes of police and other officials in their respective cities, continuing reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents indicate. First returns from a survey, published Oct. 16, showed that some 75 per cent of the houses would stay open. Further reports follow:

One rare instance of an industry-sponsored recommendation to close is that of the War Activities Committee in St. Louis presenting exhibitors with a V-Day close-your-doors policy based upon five points, as follows: "Contact community leaders and churches so that proper celebrations

(*Continued on page 11*)

Chicago Wary of Election Business

Chicago, Oct. 26. — Loop houses are avoiding new film openings during the coming Presidential election week, expecting dull business regardless of the strength of new programs or promotions.

Both the Downtown and Oriental, which change their combination, screen and stage bills weekly, have trimmed their talent costs for election week.

Personal Mention

FLOSSIE FLYNN, chief of Loew's telephone department, will retire tomorrow. Employees will present her with a war bond.

•

M. E. LEE, Central States Theatre Corp. booker, and his bride, the former MARJORIE DICKENS, have returned to Des Moines from a honeymoon trip.

•

SAM GALANTY, Columbia's Mid-West division manager, has returned to Washington from Richmond, Va., accompanied by BEN CAPLON, branch manager.

•

LT. LEWIS BLUMBERG, son of NATE BLUMBERG, president of Universal, is now stationed at the Lincoln (Neb.) army air base.

•

FRED FORD, RKO publicist who has been in Chicago on a temporary assignment, leaves for Memphis next week.

•

LESTER KRIEGER, assistant to TED SCHLANGER, Philadelphia manager for Warner Theatres, is in New York.

•

R. J. INGRAM, Southern district manager for Columbia, has been in New Orleans on business, from Atlanta.

•

RALPH MAW, M-G-M Buffalo manager, returned to that city yesterday after a three-day visit here.

•

HERB ELISBURG, operator of the Studio, Chicago, will be in New York this weekend.

•

BOB HICKEY, Midwest publicity head for RKO, will spend next week in St. Louis.

•

HARRY KATZ, vice president of PRC, has returned to New York from Charlotte.

500 Stars to Appear At 'Night of Stars'

About 500 entertainers, including many film stars, as well as radio and stage personalities, will appear at the 11th annual "Night of Stars" to be held Nov. 14 at Madison Square Garden here. An audience of 20,000 is anticipated by Robert M. Weitman, chairman of the producing committee.

Proceeds will be turned over to the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine.

20,000,000 Service Tickets from Loew

The number of uniformed men and women in the Armed Forces who have been admitted to Loew's theatres at cut-price rates has passed 20,00,000, according to H. J. Cleary of Loew's. Some 6,500,000 were registered by Loew's theatres in the New York area. Value of the reduced prices involved is approximately $500,000.

Charges Arbitration Authority Expired

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 26.—The Harry Arthur injunction action against the consent decree companies and the American Arbitration Ass'n., filed in Federal court here yesterday, alleges that a ruling of the local arbitration board which cut the clearance of the Apollo Theatre from one month to one week resulted in a loss of patronage to the extent of $95,000. The suit asks treble damages of $285,000, in addition to other injunctive relief.

Defendants in addition to the distributors and the AAA include Adolph Rosecan and Joseph Litvag, officers of the Apollo. The suit charges that the authority to make arbitration awards was given by the New York Federal court for a period of only three years, as an "experiment," and no longer is in force.

Ken Goldsmith to India for Universal

Ken Goldsmith, former Universal manager at Trinidad, has been placed in charge of the company's distribution office in India and will leave for his new post as soon as travel arrangements are completed. He is scheduled to visit Portugal and South Africa on company business, en route to India.

Goldsmith, who has been at the home offices temporarily for a number of weeks, was formerly with 20th Century-Fox in the Far East.

Silverstone Reports On South America

Murray Silverstone, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, reported on his recent trip to South America at a meeting of company foreign managers at the MPPDA here yesterday. He will complete his report at the next meeting. Francis C. De Wolfe of the telecommunications division of the State Department was present from Washington.

National Theatres' Meetings on Today

National Theatres' executives and divisional managers will start the first of three meetings here today at which theatre construction and expansion and television will be on the agenda. Charles Skouras, president, will preside.

Others who will attend are: Frank Newman, Elmer Rhoden, David Idzal, Tom Page, Harry Cox, Harold Fitzgerald, Frank (Rick) Ricketson, B. V. Sturdivant, George Bowser, Russell H. McCullough, Dan Michalove and A. S. Gambee.

Screen Spanish 'Dance'

Monogram will hold a trade screening of its Spanish dubbed "Lady Let's Dance," starring Belita, for foreign department executives of all companies, the press, and Latin-American correspondents today at the Preview Theatre here. This is the first Spanish dubbed film to be publicly screened here.

5 of SOEG Must Explain Charges

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 26.—The Screen Office Employees Guild today obtained the issuance of Superior Court subpoenaes requiring five members to file depositions next Tuesday disclosing the sources of information on which they based their plea for an injunction to prevent the expenditure of Guild funds for political activities allegedly in violation of a Federal law.

Judge Clarence M. Hanson issued a temporary restraining order Oct. 24, setting a hearing for Nov. 1. The dissidents alleged in their complaint that the funds were being used to promote favored candidates. SOEG heads assert that the money, obtained by a special levy on the membership, and approved by a majority vote, was expended to oppose "Proposition 12," which they consider inimical to union labor interests.

Wanger Academy Head for 6th Term

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 26.—The board of governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences last night reelected Walter Wanger to a sixth term as president, and likewise retained in office: Jean Hersholt, first vice-president; John Leroy Johnston secretary; W. B. Ihnen, assistant secretary; Y. Frank Freeman, research council chairman, and Margaret Gledhill, executive secretary.

Others chosen were: Michael Curtiz, Ronald Colman and Mary C. McCall, Jr., as second, third and fourth vice-presidents, respectively; Nat W. Finston, treasurer, and Gordon Hollingshead, assistant treasurer.

20th, Selznick Agree On Jennifer Jones

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 26.—20th Century-Fox has announced agreement by Darryl Zanuck and David O. Selznick dropping legal actions pending on the services of Jennifer Jones. The agreement provides that Selznick will lend the star for one picture annually for an unspecified number of years, the first to be "Cluny Brown," with Ernest Lubitsch producing in the Spring.

Two suits arising from the star's failure report for the lead in "Laura" had been consolidated by U. S. District Judge Ben Harrison for pre-trial hearing Nov. 6.

Reserve Decision In Hillside Plea

Federal Judge Samuel H. Rifkind, in New York District Court, reserved decision yesterday on an application by Hillside Amusement Corp. for an order directing Paramount to produce books and records for use in connection with an examination before trial of Adolph Zukor. Hillside is suing the distributors, charging violations of anti-trust laws.

Plaintiff is seeking triple damages of $900,000. Zukor's testimony will be halted until the court rules on the plea, which Paramount opposed.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FIBBER McGEE AND MOLLY
"HEAVENLY DAYS"
EXTRA!
"This Is America" Series "Navy Yard"

★★ VICTORIA ★★
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
20 CENTURY FOX PICTURE
WILSON
IN TECHNICOLOR

Gene Tierney - Dana Andrews - Clifton Webb
"LAURA"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Plus on Stage—Hazel SCOTT - Jackie MILES
Jerry WAYNE - HARRISON and FISHER
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

PARAMOUNT'S
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay"
starring
Gail RUSSELL - Diana LYNN
with Charlie Ruggles - Dorothy Gish
IN PERSON—FRANK SINATRA
plus Eileen Barton
RAYMOND PAIGE and his orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
DAVID O. SELZNICK'S
'SINCE YOU WENT AWAY'
IN PERSON
WILL OSBORNE
and Orchestra

Vivien LEIGH Robert TAYLOR
In M-G-M's
WATERLOO BRIDGE
BRANDT'S REPUBLIC
B'way Bet. 51st and 52nd Sts.
Phone CO 5-9647 Midnite Shows

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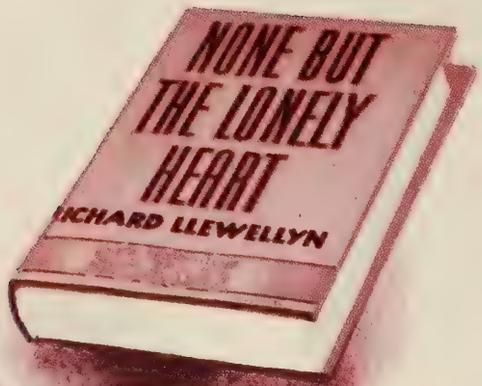
I'm Ernie Mott...
I make my own
rules for life
and love!"
Boy, watch the femmes go for this!

A story that looks life st

and blinks at nothing

Here are conflict, violence, devotion
. . . in a picture that takes its place among the
screen's finest triumphs . . . that intensifies the
emotional sweep of the novel that thrilled millions — by the
author of "HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY."



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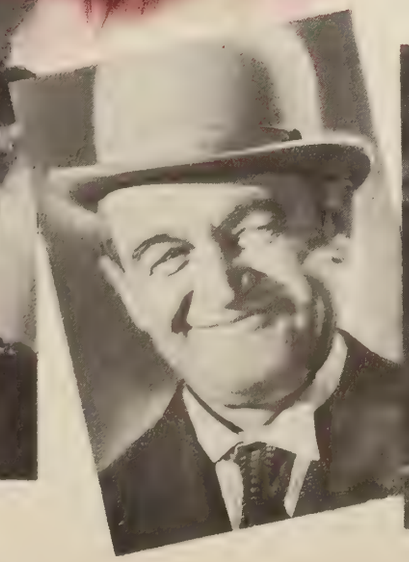


FROM THE NOVEL BY RICHARD LLEWELLYN

ight in the eye . . .

IT

ut the Lonely Heart

s ETHEL BARRYMORE

BARRY FITZGERALD JUNE DUPREZ • JANE WYATT

ORGE COULOURIS • DAN DURYEA ROMAN BOHNEN • KONSTANTIN SHAYNE

RKO RADIO PICTURES

PRODUCED BY DAVID HEMPSTEAD DIRECTED BY CLIFFORD ODETS

THE ROLE OF HIS CAREER . . . THE PICTURE OF THE YEAR!

RKO RADIO PICTURES *Proudly* PRESENTS

CARY GRANT

in an incomparable drama
from the novel by Richard Llewellyn

None but the Lonely Heart

with MISS ETHEL

BARRYMORE

BARRY FITZGERALD

JUNE DUPREZ • JANE WYATT

GEORGE COULOURIS • DAN DURYEA
ROMAN BOHNEN • KONSTANTIN SHAYNE

PRODUCED BY DAVID HEMPSTEAD
DIRECTED BY CLIFFORD ODETS

Written for the Screen by Clifford Odets

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Good old RKO

PCA Is Not a Censor, Golden Tells Editors

(Continued from page 1)

his job. It is of no assistance to the industry and the art to have this called censorship."

He described the PCA's functioning as being "somewhat like that of a libel lawyers conferring with an editor *prior* to the publication of a piece of copy. It is, in both instances, a provision against transgression and an excellent device for the avoidance of trouble.

Same With Newspapers

"In a pretty substantial fashion," continued Golden, "reputable newspapers are edited very considerably from the same point of view. This obviously must be, because you are responsible to the same people and the same mores. It is to be noted, for instance, in some irony, that the book reviewers of the daily press, who enjoy almost as much liberty as sports writers, never quote the unspeakable words and purple passages of books, which so often they praisingly review. They couldn't get away with it under the surveillance of your editors. They and the editors alike are responsible, just as the motion picture is, to the American family and the institution of the American home.

"Because you, like some people I know in Hollywood, have never read the Production Code, it may be informative to summarize it for you," Golden said in highlighting the basic permissibilities and non-permissibilities of the code.

Escape National Censorship

Reminding the newspaper executives of their long-held concern over maintaining "freedom of the press," Golden hit at threats to the existence of that status on the screen. He said: "For more than 20 years there have been intermittent but ever increasing endeavors to put the motion picture, legalistically, into the status of a public utility. The list of legislative proposals and bills addressed at that purpose runs literally into the hundreds. Along with that there is, more commonly than not, an associated endeavor at national censorship. So far we have escaped that, save for the probably necessary war-time examination of motion pictures destined for export. I think that this is considerably to be attributed to the general excellence of our public relations, and this is a very proper occasion for me to observe, in this connection, that for some years now the motion picture has been enjoying friendly treatment at the hands of editors and what we call 'a good press'.

'Master Race' Campaign

Golden was introduced by Buell Hudson, publisher of the *Woonsocket Call*, who explained that a campaign in behalf of Golden's latest production, "The Master Race," released by RKO, had been placed in 50 New England newspapers.

Lewis, Critic, Dies

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 26.—William J. Lewis, 71, dramatic critic of the Pittsburgh *Sun-Telegraph* since 1927, died here yesterday. Surviving are his widow, a son, a brother and a sister.

Local Exchanges to Close for Regional War Bond Meetings

(Continued from page 1)

distributors in view of the fact that all district and branch managers and salesmen are attending the sessions, and with the exhibitors aware of this a greater attendance is anticipated.

Salt Lake, Portland 6th Drive Meetings

SALT LAKE CITY, Oct. 26.—Members of the 6th War Bond national committee touring key cities for the drive were first met 20 miles away from this city this morning with a caravan of autos containing scores of exhibitors. The meeting was attended by every exhibitor from Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Utah and Colorado. Principal speakers at the meeting included Harry Brandt, Ned E. Depinet, John Hertz, Jr., Leo Wolcott and John Rugar.

In Portland, Ore., a meeting was held at the Benson Hotel with 230 exhibitors from the state in attendance. A 100 per cent pledge from exhibitors was received and a wire was sent to Ted R. Gamble, national director of the WAC War Finance Division, promising full support of Oregon's exhibitors. Speakers totaled 15, including Thomas Mitchell.

Cite Program Cost of Video

(Continued from page 1)

linked for the reception of important news events and programs of entertainment.

The question of program costs was raised by Paul Raibourn of Paramount Pictures who said that no advertiser or broadcaster could hope to meet the expense of a program comparable to an 'A' motion picture which costs $8,000 to $25,000 per minute of playing time. Raibourn said the major technical problem to be solved in video is that of picture quality. To get higher definition pictures now there is a tendency to confine activities to studios where light is available, and thus get into costly production. "What is needed," he said, "is improved pickup equipment that can be used anywhere."

Raibourn urged that television be started as soon as possible on the lowest band of frequencies that can be assigned to it, with as many wave lengths as possible, rather than to sit back until the possibilities of the higher frequencies are developed, because "their solution may take six months to 10 years."

Charlton, Former Producer, Dies

Robert L. Charlton, 67, former film executive and independent producer prior to sound pictures, died here Wednesday at Seaton Hospital after a long illness. Services will be held today at the Plaza Funeral Home, and burial will be in Claremont, Cal. A son survives.

Charlton was responsible for the Nick Carter series of two reelers.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 26

NOW that the American Theatre Wing has established a stage door canteen in Paris, Sol. Lesser, who has a keen eye for picture possibilities, says that he will make a sequel to his "Stage Door Canteen," to be titled "Canteen in Paris." Some of the sequences will be photographed in the French capital. Time, not indicated. . . . John Cromwell has been assigned to direct "So Little Time," film dramatization of J. P. Marquand's book. It will be produced by Dore Schary for David O. Selznick. . . . In announcing titles for the second "Red Ryder" series of 1944-45, Republic discloses a substantial increase in the studio's budget for the group of Westerns, which star Bill Elliott. Greater emphasis will be placed on quality of stories, writers, and supporting casts.

•

Nancy Didrikson has been given a role in RKO's "The Enchanted Cottage." . . . Jean Trent has been signed by Universal. . . . Clark Lee, INS correspondent, has arrived in Hollywood to serve as a technical adviser on filming of "GI. Joe." . . . Chester Conklin, old-time comic, will have a role in Paramount's "Salty O'Rourke."

SOPEG Membership Rejects Pact Offer

(Continued from page 1)

steps to either have the issues placed in arbitration or certified to the War Labor Board as a dispute.

SOPEG refused to make public the details of the companies' offer, but termed it "grossly inadequate in the face of employes' needs." The negotiations were to set up a system of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales with automatic wage progressions under a stipulation signed by SOPEG and the companies last November and retroactive to last October. Also involved is a new contract to replace agreements which expired July 27, 1944, and which has been extended for two 60-day periods.

Before acting, SOPEG's negotiating committee will meet with representatives of the companies today.

20th-Fox Declares Three Dividends

(Continued from page 1)

$1.12½ per share on prior preferred stock, payable Dec. 15, to stockholders of record on Nov. 6; a dividend of 37½ cents per share on convertible preferred, payable Dec. 15, to stockholders of record on Nov. 15, and a dividend of 50 cents plus an extra dividend of 25 cents on common stock, also payable Dec. 15, to stockholders of record on Nov. 15.

The company will redeem on Jan. 2, out of its prior preferred stock retirement fund 1,867 shares of that issue at the redemption price of $100.22½. The shares to be redeemed will be selected by lot from stockholders' records as of Nov. 6.

WLB Approves Raises for Hundreds Here

(Continued from page 1)

WLB approval of an arbitration award to the Screen Publicists Guild.

Some 60 publicists at Warners received checks for 61 weeks of retroactive increases with many checks totaling $610 before deductions. Deductions included a 25 per cent levy by SPG on the first 52 weeks of retroactive pay but not to exceed $130 from any member, to meet expenses incurred during the negotiations. About 12 per cent of this will go to Hyman Glickstein, SPG attorney. Most of the other companies are expected to make payment of 78 weeks retroactivity today.

18 Classifications

The regional WLB here yesterday approved pacts between Warners, Paramount, Universal and RKO and IATSE Local F-51, covering "white collar" workers in New York exchanges. The contract provides for job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales and a minimum 10 per cent wage increase retroactive to Dec., 1943. Wage scales for the 18 classifications set up range from $23-$32 a week for film clerks to $62-$85 a week for head bookers. Approval of similar increases have been secured for "white collar" workers in Albany and Buffalo exchanges, and applications have been filed with regional boards in all other exchange cities except Los Angeles.

200 at Universal

Some 200 office workers of Universal's home office will receive eight per cent wage increases and job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales as a result of WLB approval of a contract negotiated between the company and Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, AFL.

The WLB had first refused to allow an original eight per cent increase, cutting approval to four per cent and also reducing some of the minimum wage scales sought, but it permitted the company to make merit increases of five cents an hour in place of the original three cents an hour sought. Company and union representatives worked out a plan to make possible the additional four per cent increase by allocating a portion of the merit increases approved by the WLB but the limitation of $4 maximum increase for any employe set by the WLB will stand. The wage increases are retroactive to last July.

Time and Half

Some 23 job classifications have been set up and time-and-one-half overtime pay is provided for after a working day of seven-and-one-half hours. John J. O'Connor and James Murphy handled negotiations for Universal, and Russell Moss, MPOE business agent, represented the union.

Marcus Killed in Action

OMAHA, Oct. 26.—Lt. Jerry Marcus, former M-G-M booker here, has been killed in action in France, associates learned here this week. Survivors include a bride of six months, his mother, and a brother, Darwin, formerly with National Screen.

LEO RINGS THAT BELL AGAIN!

MRS. MINIVER
10 WEEKS

MADAME CURIE
7 WEEKS

RANDOM HARVEST
11 WEEKS

WHITE CLIFFS
7 WEEKS

DRAGON SEED
8 WEEKS

With the single exception of "Philadelphia Story," which played New Year's week, it's the

BIGGEST FIRST WEEK OF ANY M·G·M PICTURE IN MUSIC HALL HISTORY!

Get Set For The 6th War Loan!

GREER GARSON, WALTER PIDGEON in "MRS. PARKINGTON" with Edward Arnold, Agnes Moorehead, Cecil Kellaway, Gladys Cooper, Frances Rafferty, Tom Drake, Peter Lawford, Dan Duryea, Hugh Marlowe, and the Saint Luke's Choristers Screen Play by Robert Thoeren and Polly James • Based on the Novel by Louis Bromfield • Directed by Tay Garnett Produced by Leon Gordon • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

EVEN IN THE FAR ALEUTIANS

The "Required Information"

EVERY now and then in the tide of mail which sweeps like a rolling surf across the editor's desk comes something which demands a pause and a pipeful of contemplation. Such a letter has just arrived to set one thinking of far places and the career of the publication after it pours from the presses and spreads out across the world in the mails, each copy on its separate mission of service.

This one is from cold and foggy Kodiak, way up yonder where fighting men are stationed to patrol and protect land and sea and air of Alaska and the once embattled Aleutian Islands. It is a God-forsaken world of long nights and sullen gloom. There the motion picture offers the most that can be had in relief, diversion, and happy memories of gayer days at home.

The writer is J. H. Shirley, C.E.M., U.S.N., Chief of Sector Sound & Projection, Sector (N) Kodiak, Alaska. He records:

¶ The Motion Picture Herald has certainly been a great assistance in Alaska and the Aleutian Islands.

¶ Along with the first landings of the Islands in the west came the motion picture projectors, and it seemed that a film exchange sprang to life immediately, and then theatres started to be built. At that time I was in charge of sound and projection and drew the plans for the theatre booths.

¶ Though a lot of material and knowledge was missing, we had the luck to have a few Heralds that had the required information. These Heralds were a great assistance for features and shorts.

¶ I was later transferred to Kodiak. We used the advertising pages of new features on a large bulkhead in our exchange. Many members of the service have spent an interesting time visiting the exchange and viewing the coming attractions. They usually leave talking of some feature coming instead of the troubles and lonesomeness usually involved in most conversation.

Mr. Shirley, let us remark, is a showman and member of the Managers' Round Table of Motion Picture Herald. His letter, in simple directness, tells with warming emphasis, and no excited adjectives, something of what the motion picture means to the fighting men of the great war—and also how this publication implements that service, with the "know how" about the motion picture, from machines to product. Remember Mr. Shirley's phrase: " . . . a few Heralds that had the required information". —*Terry Ramsaye*

from

MOTION PICTURE HERALD

the Great Journal of the Great Industry

Theatres Take Cue For V-E Day from Officials of Cities

(*Continued from page* 1)

will be arranged to keep people off the streets; closing of your theatre seems to be a logical thing to do, enabling your employees to go to church and participate in public celebrations and provide protection for your property; prepare an announcement for use if the war's end comes while a show is in progress. Suggest that the audience stand in silent prayer for one minute; pause briefly and then complete show; each theatre should have a one-sheet or a 40x60 explaining why the theatre is closed; the manager should be around the theatre at all times for the protection of property; it is suggested that each theatre prepare an advertisement ready to run on V-Day, explaining to patrons the reason for closing.

Theatres in Des Moines have agreed to shut their doors on V-day in compliance with a proposed ordinance closing public gathering places and prohibiting the sale of beer in any form the day victory comes in Europe.

Reading, Memphis Open

In Reading, Pa., theatres have been asked to remain open as a public service. In Memphis, police officials have requested that theatres stay open as celebrating crowds will be more orderly in a theatre than elsewhere.

The Northio theatres, Cincinnati, 18 in number, are given the right to decide for themselves whether to remain open, but the recommendation of the general manager is that they close. In Hartford, radio and stage equipment will be on hand for making announcements to theatre patrons.

It is also planned to have "prayer" trailers flashed on the screen for audience participation if the news arrives during a show. In one small spot, Tullahoma, Tenn., the Marshall Theatre will close and be used by the local ministers' alliance for a union prayer service by all local churches.

In Pittsburgh, city officials indicate that theatres will remain open on V-Day since it is believed that theatres may lessen danger in the streets by absorbing the heavy crowds.

Boyer at Rally

Charles Boyer and Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia have been added to the list of speakers scheduled for the luncheon rally to be held by the Theatrical and Motion Picture Committee for Roosevelt, Truman and Wagner at the Hotel Astor here Monday, Louis Nizer, chairman, announced yesterday.

Golden Back to Blaine

Fred Golden has returnd to the Blaine-Thompson agency here as head of theatre advertising, following completion of an assignment as aeronautics instructor with the Navy. Golden was chief pilot supervising flight training of cadets at Pittsfield, Me.

Gibbs Rejoins Buchanan

Donald Gibbs, with Arthur Kudner, Inc., for the past two years, has rejoined the contact-copy staff of Buchanan and Co., to handle the motion picture account here of General Cinema Finance (J. Arthur Rank) of England.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS

"FULL OF SARONGS, SULTRY ROMANCE" AND SINUOUS HIP-WEAVINGS" OPINES HERALD-TRIBUNE OF "RAINBOW ISLAND" AFTER WEDNESDAY'S SOCK BROADWAY OPENING AT N.Y. CRITERION! TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL HIT STARRING LAMOUR - BRACKEN - LAMB IS DOING BUSINESS THAT CAUSED THE DAILY MIRROR TO SAY "WHENEVER LAMOUR COMES ALONG IN A SARONG, THE CUSTOMERS QUEUE UP OUTSIDE!" AND NEWS CALLS IT "GAY, GOOFY, COLORFUL COMEDY," JOURNAL-AMERICAN HAILS ITS "97 MINUTES OF GAY ENTERTAINMENT."

Short Subject Review

"Navy Yard"

(*RKO-Pathe*)

The powerful story of ships that limp into dry dock, battle scarred and battered, to be restored for active duty, is related in dramatic fashion in the latest "This Is America" release. The U.S.S. *Norman R. Scott*, named for the late Admiral Scott, killed in action two years ago, is the ship used to typify the many beaten 'battle wagons' treated by relentless laboring of the men and women of the nation's shipyards working day and night to keep the Navy in working order.

For 26 days and nights crews replace, repair and remake the tattered parts of the *Scott* until the ship again sails down the ways. The shipyard workers herein get the break they well deserve in a subject very worthy of exhibitors' special attention. It is thrilling and inspiring and something any audience will appreciate. Production is up to usual Frederic Ullman standards with special credit to photography. Dwight Weist handled the commentary. Running time, 16½ minutes.

Stilson Files a New Clearance Complaint

Stilson Realty Corp., operating the Cameo, Astoria, L. I., has filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies in the New York tribunal, the American Arbitration Association has reported here. Stilson recently withdrew a similar complaint when all parties signed a general stipulation.

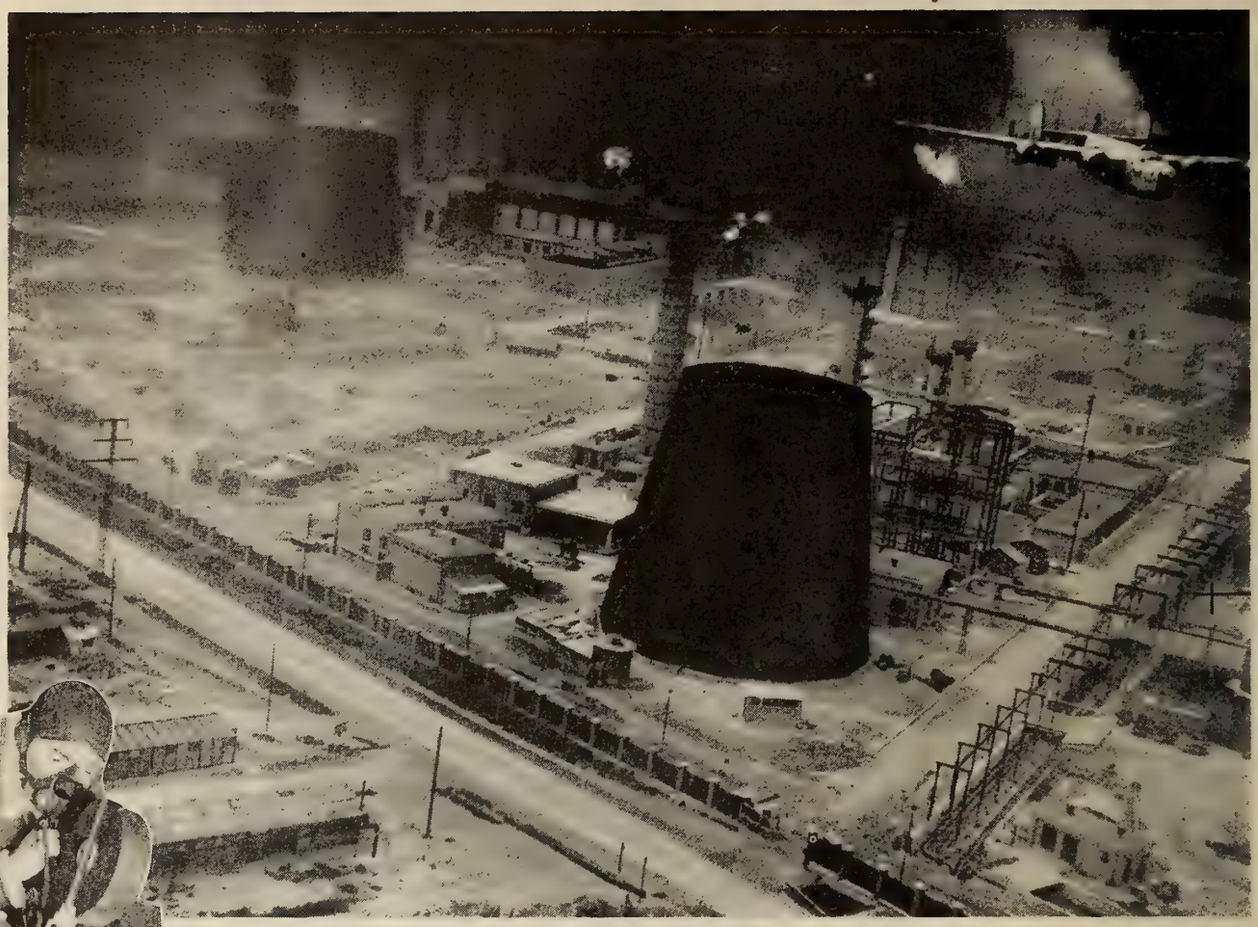
The new complaint alleges that the seven-day clearance granted to the Crescent, Astoria, over the Cameo is unreasonable as to time and area and that substantially no competition exists between the two. Complainant asks elimination of clearance. However, if the arbitrator deems some clearance warranted, it asks that it be reduced to one day, with pictures in no event to be made available later than 14 days after the end of the run at whichever of the following exhibit same: Broadway, Grand, Steinway, Crescent, all Astoria.

100 at MOT Preview

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Over 100 press and Government representatives attended a preview of March of Time's "What to Do With Germany," screened here last night in the National Archives Building. Among those present were: Walter Lippman, *Herald-Tribune* syndicate; Stanley Hornbeck, assistant to the Secretary of State: Richard Harkness, NBC; Allen Dibble and Phil Williams, MOT; E. E. Peppiatt, 20th Century-Fox.

Horstmeier Heads Club

CLEVELAND, Oct. 26 — Herbert Horstmeier, Universal office manager here, has been elected president of a new club comprised of managers, bookers and cashiers. Others named include: John Coyne, M-G-M, vice-president; Arthur Engelbert, Warners, treasurer; 'Mickey' Altschule, 20th Century-Fox, secretary. Reports indicate that the club will confine activities to social events.



A combat cameraman of the U. S. Army Air Forces was decorated for his part in the first Ploesti oil field raid.

They're flying . . . fighting . . . behind a movie camera

ARMY Air Forces Combat Camera Units are making a superb motion-picture record of the air war on the fronts all over the world. Naturally, many men from the motion picture industry have become combat photographers.

Many more make up—in large part—the First Motion Picture Unit, the training branch of the AAF Motion Picture Services. This unit has two main functions: making training films which help turn out in a hurry thousands of expert pilots, navigators, armorers, and mechanics; and the intensive coaching of hundreds of motion-picture photographers who make up the Combat Camera Units.

And the cameramen do not work alone. They are supported by a host of writers, cutters, sound and music editors, laboratory and other technicians.

There isn't space for a tenth of the story, but the net of it is that the motion-picture industry has reason to be proud of its share in the pictorial record of our Army Air Forces.

Evidence of a direct hit

Equally adept with a gun

Eastman Kodak Company

Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war

Official Photographs: U. S. Army Air Forces, U. S. Navy

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 83 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1944 TEN CENTS

DeGaulle Asks Release in US For 50 in 1945

If Unsuccessful, France Will Distribute on Own

The French film industry will make approximately 150 pictures during 1945, of which at least one-third will be "A" productions and an attempt will be made during the next two months to secure major release for the "A" product.

This failing, French producers will set up their own distribution exchanges in the United States for their product. This was revealed at the weekend by Simon Shiffrin, agent of Gen. Charles De Gaulle, and head of the motion picture division of the Ministry of Information of Free France in the U. S., who returned here Oct. 25 from a trip to France.

De Gaulle "is vitally interested in French production and distribution

(*Continued on page 7*)

UA-Rank Deal Will Be Signed Today

Contracts will be signed today between United Artists and representatives of J. Arthur Rank of London for UA to distribute in the Western Hemisphere seven films made by Rank producing companies. The deal is understood to be for five years.

The films are: "Colonel Blimp," "Blithe Spirit," "This Happy Breed," "Caesar and Cleopatra" and "Henry the Fifth," all in color, and "Mr. Emmanuel" and "Her Man Gilbey." "Mr. Emmanuel" will probably be the first. Rank's Eagle-Lion here, headed by Arthur Kelly will approve contracts.

Exhibitor Has Stake In UK Films: Coplan

The American exhibitor has a stake in British product, because he will not only acquire another source, but, by his playing of better British films he will serve to stimulate Hollywood production to an even higher level. David Coplan, United Artists' British managing director, declared at the weekend.

Coplan, who is here from London

(*Continued on page 7*)

Seeks U.S. 'Invasion' Of Film Industry For Video Programs

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—The Federal Government was invited Friday to participate in and share the profits of an 'invasion' of motion picture exhibition, to be financed by the U. S. Treasury.

The 'invitation' was extended by U. A. Sanabria, president of American Television Laboratories, testifying before the Federal Communications Commission on the reallocation of radio frequencies, who outlined a proposal for a television monopoly.

Sanabria's plan called for division of the country into five areas each with a station on one of the five best television channels; registration of all television receivers at a suggested fee of $2 per month, 10 per cent of which

(*Continued on page 7*)

Para. Loses Suit On Cooper Theatres

Federal Judge Samuel H. Rifkind in New York Federal Court, Friday, confirmed a report of Special Master Francis W. H. Adams and dismissed a complaint of Paramount against Rialto, Inc., Interstate Theatres of Colorado and J. H. Cooper Enterprises in which Paramount had sought an adjudication of its claimed right to an interest in the stock of those corporations. The suit, however, held as against J. H. Cooper, president of the companies.

The report of the master indicated that the three theatre corporations are

(*Continued on page 7*)

Columbia Considers Employee Pension

Columbia has joined those considering a pension plan for employees, adding to the pension possibilities under consideration by Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Warners.

RKO already has adopted a pension system and is awaiting final Treasury Department approval; Loew's plan becomes effective next March 1, with Treasury approval already secured.

Sue on Right to Transfer Product

Leader Theatre Corp., headed by Leopold Storch, operating the Leader Theatre, Brooklyn, filed suit Saturday in New York Supreme Court against Randforce Amusement Corp. and 20th Century-Fox, alleging a conspiracy between the defendants to deprive the Leader of product, in violation of the General Business Law of New York State.

The complaint alleges that the Leader was a Randforce house until July 23, and that up to that time the circuit was receiving "A" product from 20th, as well as "A" product from other companies. Plaintiff purchased the theatre in July, and alleges $20,000 was spent in renovations, and that an attempt was made to secure 20th product on the same terms as Randforce but 20th allegedly refused.

173 Key-Run Bills Below Average in Past 3 Weeks

Bogged down frequently by inclement weather and possibly suffering also from a temporary shortage of 'quality' pictures, first-run theatres in key cities throughout the country have experienced a decided boxoffice slump during the past three weeks, according to reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents, who found 173 programs that failed to top house averages in comparison with 204 that went above par. For many months, below-average reports have been a rarity.

Although, in most instances, acknowledged top-flight films continue to pull good grosses, there have been exceptions even to this rule. In Indianapolis, for example, during the week of Oct. 16, all houses dropped under average. Last week in Baltimore, Buffalo, Providence, St. Louis and Cleveland, the theatres failing to attain par outnumbered those which exceeded it.

The trend has been somewhat constant throughout the period of the survey. Last week, out of 112 theatres reported, 61 ran above average, six barely reached the mark, and 45 fell below. In the preceding week, 143 tabulations showed 76 houses topping par, 10 on the border line, and 57 in arrears. And the week of Oct. 9, when there were 122 reports, found 67 above, six at average and 49 below. Places where house averages continue to be broken rather consistently include Chicago, Los Angeles, Denver, Cincinnati and Kansas City.

15,479 Houses Operate Full Time in U.S.

6,503 Circuit Theatres, 8,976 in Small Units

There are 15,479 theatres in the United States operating at least six days a week, of which 6,503 are in affiliated or independent circuits of four or more theatres and the remaining 8,976 are singly operated or in units of less than four, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learns from a distributor's home office survey of the country.

There are 513 circuits of four or more theatres in the U. S., the survey reveals.

The largest number of circuit theatres are in the New York exchange area, a total of 609. The Minneapolis area has the largest number of theatres in groups of four or less: 576. The New York area also has the largest number of circuits of four or more: 40.

The smallest number of four-or-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Walker to Sell 1st Stamps to Schaefer

At noon tomorrow in New York and Los Angeles, the first-day sale of the new three-cent stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of motion pictures will take place, with attendant ceremonies.

In New York, Postmaster General Frank C. Walker and New York Postmaster Albert Goldman will sell the first sheet of stamps to George J. Schaefer, War Activities Committee chairman, who will purchase them on behalf of WAC. Will Hays, former

(*Continued on page 7*)

SOPEG Breaks Off Pact Negotiations

The Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, broke off contract negotiations at the weekend with Paramount, RKO, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox and Columbia. SOPEG's negotiating committee informed the companies of their decision at a meeting Friday after the union membership empowered the committee to act at a meeting here Thursday night. Some 2,000 office workers in home offices are involved.

SOPEG will take the dispute either to the New York State Board of Mediation or the War Labor Board.

Personal Mention

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal's advertising-publicity director, is expected here from Hollywood about Nov. 15.

•

ANGELIA DIANGELIS CONFER of the DiAngelis film billboard organization, will leave New York Nov. 1 with the Wainwright Unit of the Wacs, for training in Georgia. EDWARD DIANGELIS of the same company, has left for Los Angeles and the Navy.

•

MONROE RUBINGER of Warner's studio publicity department has arrived from the Coast to visit his family. He is accompanied by his fiancee, MARJORIE JANE KRASNE, of Omaha, where they will marry Nov. 9.

•

SGT. M. A. LIGHTMAN, JR., son of M. A. LIGHTMAN, of the Malco Circuit, Memphis, Tenn., was recently called home when his wife underwent an operation at the Baptist Memorial Hospital in that city.

•

TONY SUDEKUM, president of Crescent Amusement Co., and MRS. SUDEKUM, recently entertained in honor of his father, HENRY, on his 89th birthday.

•

RODNEY COLLIER, manager of the Stanley Theatre, Baltimore, has returned to his office following a siege of the grippe.

•

LIEUT. (j.g.) EDDIE ALBERT, USNR, former film player, has arrived in New York from Washington.

•

WILLIAM HEINEMAN, general sales manager for SAMUEL GOLDWYN is expected back today from a trip through the Midwest.

•

MIKE FISH, head of Warner studio photographic department, returned to the Coast from here over the weekend.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th-Fox Western sales manager, will return to his desk today after an illness.

•

SOL SCHWARTZ, head of RKO out-of-town theatres, returned at the weekend from Washington.

•

HARRY A. ROSS, president of Ross Federal Service, has returned from Chicago and Memphis.

•

JACOB WILK, Eastern production manager for Warners, returned at the weekend from Boston.

•

NAT WOLF, Warners Cleveland zone manager, was a weekend visitor in New York.

Selznick Buys 'Lily'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—David Selznick has purchased "Scarlet Lily," the story of Mary Magdalene, written by Rev. Edward F. Murphy. He will produce, starting in the Spring, with Ingrid Bergman in the lead. The film will be in color.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

GOING to a Broadway play opening in the company of a circuit executive is quite an experience. So is a night spent in a mosquito-infested swamp.

Our entrance was a late one, naturally. "These first night performances always are at least a half-hour late getting started, and why should we waste our time on account of them? Come on. Drink up and we'll have another."

"Don't check your things," I was cautioned when we finally arrived at the theatre. "You'll be in the place all night waiting to get them back after the show. Besides, theatre checking is just a racket. Wouldn't permit it in our theatres."

There were two ushers in sight, both busily hunting locations for others and completely oblivious of us.

"Can you imagine treating the customers like this in our business? How long do you s'pose we'd last if we tried it?"

A little determined finger-snapping accomplished the desired result, however, and it was necessary for us to climb over only six people to get to our seats. They were nice, courteous people, too. Only one lady said "Nuts" in response to my companion's "So sorry," as he brushed a fur cape from her lap to the floor, in passing.

•

The first act ending drew hearty applause. We made for the lobby.

"Looks like a stinkeroo, doesn't it?" remarked my companion. "Don't know why the studio would buy a thing like that. But what do they care? They grind 'em out and if the company gets the dough back they claim credit for it. Say it was sure-fire and couldn't have missed if we didn't have a sales department and theatres of our own. If it's a flopperoo, why it's our fault. It wasn't sold right. It wasn't presented right. We did everything we could to ruin a valuable property.

"Trouble with the studio is it's out of touch with the customers. They should hear the comments we hear when the customers see those 'artistic triumphs' of theirs. They ought to have all theatre men making pictures. Right? There's an idea for your paper—if you want to do the industry some good. 'Theatre men's pictures —For theatres!' How's that for a slogan?"

•

"Ow," said the lady with the fur cape as my companion trespassed on her instep while making his way out at the end of the second act.

"Imagine us trying to get $5.50 a seat for a show like this in a dump like this," said my companion. "Not even enough room to get in and out of a seat."

"Looka that," he urged as we entered the foyer. "Hawkin' lemonade and candy. Imagine us getting away with anything like that in our houses. Guys running theatres who don't know anything about them. That's what's wrong with the stage. It's a wonder they don't all lose their shirts, instead of just most of them. Boy, could we clean up if all our competition ran their stands like these places are run.

"What we really ought to do is to take over this play producing business and run it right. That's what I tell them in the office. Look at all the dough we have in it anyhow, and we don't even tell them how to run their theatres. Its pathetic. You ought to do a piece for your paper about it. I'll give you some good dope for it tomorrow."

•

There were a number of conspicuously empty seats as the last act began.

"Told you it was a flopperoo," he said. "And the studio got us to put 150 grand on it. Somebody should have listened to me."

The applause which greeted the last act curtain was what is described as "polite."

"You know," he said, as we made our way up the aisle, "I've got a hunch we'll make money on this thing. If the studio gets a Broadway hit, chances are they'll louse it up. But if you give them corn like this they're just as likely as not to come up with something we can stay open with. Maybe this is one of them. Anything they do to this will almost have to improve it. Then, again, maybe they'll keep it on the shelf. I hope, I hope. If they'd only quit telling us anything goes these days."

Ed Schreiber Joins Condon Agency

Ed Schreiber, for the past two years national director of publicity for the War Activities Committee, has resigned to join the Richard Condon, Inc., public relations agency, as vice-president in charge of motion pictures, effective Dec. 1.

Prior to his post at the WAC, where he was active in all industry war projects, with special emphasis on the 16-mm gift-film program for the Armed Forces, Schreiber was with Warners' publicity department for seven years.

With the development of the Condon agency into the industrial field, Schreiber is joining that firm to head its motion picture department. During the year the Condon organization has been engaged by Columbia, which recently signed a contract for continued services; *Look Magazine*, Paramount, the "50th Anniversary of the Motion Picture Industry," United Artists, RKO-Pathe, Russian Government films, War Activities Committee, and others.

N. Y. Publicists Get Retroactive Salary

Film companies here, except Loew's, made payment at the weekend of 78 weeks of retroactive wage increases to home office publicists under the Screen Publicists Guild of New York arbitration award. Loew's is expected to pay this week. Warners paid off 61 weeks of retroactive pay last Thursday. Wage increases also became effective.

The overall amount of the payment to some 280 publicists is about $130,000. Publicists received as much as $780, before deductions, which included a levy of 25 per cent on the first 52 weeks' pay for SPG expenses and treasury.

Chertok Leaves WB After 'Stolen Life'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—Producer Jack Chertok disclosed to MOTION PICTURE DAILY at the weekend that he will leave the Warner studio following his present commitment, "Stolen Life," with Bette Davis, to accept one of three offers under consideration, one of which is in independent production.

Chertok made "Northern Pursuit," "Conspirators" and "The Corn Is Green" for Warners, after terminating a long connection with M-G-M.

Laufer to 'U' Today

Phil Laufer, until recently with United Artists, will join Universal's home office publicity staff today as coordinator of radio, newspaper and trade contacts. Laufer will also handle key city previews.

Whelan to Mexico

Leslie Whelan, 20th Century-Fox director of foreign publicity, left here at the weekend for Mexico City, where he will remain for several weeks setting the premiere of "Song of Bernadette's" Spanish version.

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SHE'S INCANDESCENT!
LAURA

20th CENTURY-FOX, THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN PRE-SELLING, BEAMS A BIG 20-MAGAZINE AD CAMPAIGN TO 35 MILLION CIRCULATION

THE COMPANY THAT MADE "WILSON"

SHE'S INCANDESCENT!
LAURA

LAURA

DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
WILSON
IN TECHNICOLOR

A. J. CRONIN'S
THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

POWER YOUR MARQUEE WITH THE BOX-OFFICE POWER OF

20th CENTURY-FOX

IRISH EYES ARE SMILING
IN TECHNICOLOR

MOSS HART'S
WINGED VICTORY

GREENWICH VILLAGE
IN TECHNICOLOR

SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS
IN TECHNICOLOR

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

DeGaulle Asks Release in US For 50 in 1945

(Continued from page 1)

and will keep an eye on the industry's growth," said Shiffrin. At present, production in France is at a standstill because there is still no current, power or material but the studios are all safe, and so is the sound equipment, he insisted. The Government of France will exercise control over the distribution of French films, since some 200 were made in the four years under the Nazis, of which only 35-40, with proper deletions, are suitable for foreign distribution. The others are either poor in quality or contain Nazi propaganda.

A board of censorship has already been set up operating in Paris for these films and all foreign product coming to France, including American. The 1934 law allowing only 15 theatres in all of France to play superimposed - title pictures still stands. All foreign pictures entering France outside of these 15 theatres must be dubbed. Average cost of French "A" production is 12,000,000 to 14,000,000 francs—the franc is now 2 cents. Paris now has 25 theatres showing films, and there is plenty of money available there for French production.

Brought Three Films

Schiffrin brought three French pictures with him which were made under Nazi domination, but which buffooned the Nazis, unknown to them. They will be shown to American film executives and the OWI may distribute them here. The films are each 12 reels. A French documentary, "The Liberation of Paris," with Charles Boyer doing the narration, is also to be released by the OWI. Noel Coward did the British commentation, and Pierre Blanchar, head of the French Cinema, who accompanied Shiffrin to America, the commenting for France.

Shiffrin and Blanchar both will go to Hollywood with the pictures and plan to return to France in two months.

Exhibitor Has Stake In UK Films: Coplan

(Continued from page 1)

to view current UA product and also to examine future production plans, will return to his post abroad as soon as transportation can be arranged.

The British effort to make pictures on a scale that will be commercially acceptable for world distribution is a "serious effort," Coplan said. The British producer is conscious today of his past limitations and is striving to eliminate them, he added.

American production is aided materially, Coplan said, by the British market because it gives a producer more confidence to venture into costlier production. (American distributors are estimated to take out $80,000,000 in film rentals from the British market annually.)

UA's British quota requirements are to be fulfilled by its deal with J. Arthur Rank for distribution of Rank films in the U. S., Coplan declared.

200 Attend Industry Sixth War Loan Seattle Rally

SEATTLE, Oct. 29. — Another in the series of industry Sixth War Loan bond meetings was held here at the weekend in the Olympic Hotel with more than 200 exhibitors and distributors of Washington, Idaho and Alaska attending. L. O. Lukan, independent exhibitor here, presided.

Mayor W. F. Devin of Seattle, welcomed the delegates and lauded the co-operation of theatres in every drive they have handled. Appeals were made by James Halpin, veteran of 21 years in the Armed Forces and recently returned from the Italian theatre, and Petty Officer F. F. Farragut, nephew of Admiral Farragut who told of his experiences during the 'sneak attack' on Pearl Harbor.

William F. Crockett, national vice chairman of the industry's drive introduced Hugh Bruen, Pacific Coast chairman of the drive; Fay Reeder, publicity chairman from San Francisco; Henry Herbel, Warner district manager and Coast chairman for the distributors division; and Rotus Harvey, also from San Francisco. The climax to the meeting was a talk made by Lieut. Louis Largev of the Marine Corps who told of the attack on Tarawa.

RKO Lends Thompson To Sixth War Loan

Newcomb F. Thompson, with the RKO publicity staff here, has been loaned to the national committee of the industry's Sixth War Loan. Thompson, who has been with RKO for the past several months following his release from the Armed Forces, will work on drive publicity for the Metropolitan press.

Capitol Will Sponsor First Bond Premiere

The first bond premiere for the Sixth War Loan campaign has been announced for the Capitol Theatre here on Nov. 15, when M-G-M, in a tieup with Fred Gehle, chairman of the N. Y. War Finance Committee, will present the world premiere of "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

Admission will be by bond-purchase only and the Capitol expects to sell at least 5,000 "E" bonds. Reserved seat tickets go on sale Nov. 1 in the lobbies of Loew's Mayfair, Criterion, State, Astor and Capitol.

Newark Drive Opens On Nov. 2

NEWARK, Oct. 29.—The Newark area meeting for the 6th War Loan drive will be held Nov. 2 at the Little Theatre, attended by exhibitors of Northern New Jersey, as called by exhibitor state chairmen Harry Lowenstein and Frank Damis. Lowenstein will preside and the drive's national committee will be represented by George F. Dembow, Ben Abner and Max E. Youngstein, the latter representing John Hertz, Jr. Youngstein will discuss advertising and publicity highlights of the drive.

Harmon, Reeve, Crockett At Carolina Meet Nov. 13

CHARLOTTE, Oct. 29.—The industry in the Carolinas will meet here at the Hotel Charlotte Nov. 13 to plan its participation in the Sixth War Loan drive, which will get underway Nov. 20.

Francis S. Harmon of New York, executive of the national War Activities Committee, will be among the speakers. Others will be Henry Reeve, independent exhibitor of Menard, Texas, and William F. Crockett, president of the Virginia MPTO, both of whom are co-chairmen of the sixth drive. George Carpenter, WAC chairman for North Carolina, and Warren Irvin, chairman for South Carolina, will be in charge of the meeting.

Fromkess Honored By PRC At Party

Leon Fromkess, PRC president, in New York from the Coast for a home office visit, was guest of honor at a reception tendered by the company on Friday at the company's offices.

In addition to company officials and trade press representatives, guests included George Gill, PRC franchise holder in Washington; Nat Lefton, Cleveland franchise holder, and Harry Goldman, Boston franchise holder, who were in New York for sales conferences with Leo J. McCarthy, PRC general sales manager. Fromkess will attend a PRC board meeting to be held tomorrow or Wednesday and plans to leave for the Coast about Nov. 10.

Honor Montgomery

Bob Montgomery, who will join Lester Cowan Productions today as Eastern director of publicity, was given a farewell luncheon at Ruby Foo's here Friday by former associates at 20th Century-Fox where he was executive assistant to Hal Horne, director of advertising and publicity. Among those attending were Horne, Charles Schlaifer, Jonas Rosenfield, Jr., and George Gomperts.

Asks U.S. 'Invasion' Of Film Industry

(Continued from page 1)

would go to the Federal Government and the remainder divided equally among the stations, which would rent films from regular film producers.

The only difference between this plan and the British Government monopoly, he admitted, would be that the stations could take advertising and keep the revenue therefrom, while between the stations and the Government, there would be a 'utility company which would handle registrations.

Sanabria did not mention what effect his proposed television-film program might have upon the theatres of the country, but he made a bid for the support of the producers by expatiating upon the impressive business that would go to them under the plan.

Four Year Agreement

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—Under terms of the agreement reached Thursday by 20th Century-Fox and David O. Selznick, Jennifer Jones will be loaned to 20th-Fox for one picture annually for four years.

15,479 Houses Operate Full Time in U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

more circuit theatres is in the Portland, Ore., area, where there are 38. The smallest number of groups of less than four is in the Albany area, 97. And the smallest number of circuits of four or more is in Omaha, 3.

Of the 6,503 theatres in circuits of four or more, 2,622 are affiliated-circuit houses, leaving 3,881 unaffiliated circuits of four-or-more in the U. S.

Following is a territorial breakdown by exchange areas of circuits and theatres operating at least six days a week:

Exchange Territories	No. of Circuits of 4 Or more Units	No. of Independent Theatres	No. of Circuit Theatres
Albany	9	97	104
Atlanta	37	481	355
Boston	19	378	340
Buffalo	8	165	126
Charlotte	24	275	233
Chicago	25	353	301
Cincinnati	32	411	209
Cleveland	25	237	220
Dallas	18	436	490
Des Moines	4	247	115
Denver	16	184	142
Detroit	30	306	236
Indianapolis	17	261	133
Kansas City	10	356	184
Los Angeles	13	265	308
Memphis	10	268	268
Milwaukee	9	218	126
Minneapolis	16	576	180
New Haven	9	111	72
New Orleans	11	293	81
New York	40	340	609
Oklahoma City	7	225	144
Omaha	3	300	49
Philadelphia	27	390	365
Pittsburgh	16	365	135
Portland	9	178	38
San Francisco	8	212	212
Salt Lake City	9	241	110
Seattle	8	165	90
St. Louis	19	321	204
Washington	26	321	252
TOTALS	513	8,976	6,503

Para. Loses Suit on Cooper Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

not within the jurisdiction of the Federal Court in New York, and Judge Rifkind agreed. Paramount had claimed a 50 per cent interest in the Class "B" stocks of Rialto and Cooper Enterprises, and a 25 per cent interest in the Class "A" stock of Interstate. The complaint alleges Cooper breached a 1933 agreement under which he was induced to go to Colorado to reorganize certain theatre properties on a 50-50 basis. Instead, he acquired them under his own name, Paramount alleged.

Walker to Sell First Stamps to Schaefer

(Continued from page 1)

Postmaster General, will be present. A special platform will be built in New York's main postoffice for the ceremonies. Lucy Monroe will sing the National Anthem.

In Los Angeles, with the cooperation of Postmistress Mary Briggs, a special ceremony is also planned, with John C. Flinn, coordinator of the WAC Hollywood division, purchasing the first sheet of stamps.

'Irish Eyes' Bright On $29,000 Gross

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 29.—With the exception of the Fox and Paramount Theatres, grosses generally eased off during the week. Along with the Orpheum, these were the only two houses not showing holdovers.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 24-26:

"The Climax" (Univ.)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (74c-$1.20) 7 das, 9th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Bride By Mistake" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $27,000).
"Trade Winds" (UA)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $25,000).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $34,500. (Average: $28,000).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,748) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
"The Great Moment" (Para.)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
"Devil Boats" (WB)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $14,000). (Average: $12,000).

Blank Dedication Dec. 3

DES MOINES, Oct. 29.—Dedication of the $250,000 Raymond Blank Memorial Children's Hospital will take place here Sunday, Dec. 3. The hospital was built by A. H. Blank, Tri-States Theatre Corp., president, in memory of his son.

Para. Reports Deal On Cobian Circuit

Paramount Films of Cuba and Ramos Cobian, Puerto Rican circuit operator became partners in the operation of Circuito Cobian of Cuba, S.A., capitalized at $1,000,000 when contracts were signed at the weekend by John W. Hicks, Jr., president of Paramount International, and Cobian, president of the new corporation, Paramount announced, confirming MOTION PICTURE DAILY's story of Friday.

Both parties will participate equally in operation of 11 houses in Havana and Camaguey, and one under construction in the latter city. All Paramount product is available to the new circuit under a five year franchise. Cobian is expected to also formalize a franchise agreement with 20th Century-Fox.

'Heights' Re-release To Key Cities Only

The re-release of "Wuthering Heights" will be confined to key cities only, starting on Jan. 1, according to L. E. Goldhammer, vice-president and general sales manager of Film Classics. An advertising campaign will be launched shortly to promote the picture.

Other re-releases prior to Jan. 1 will be "Topper," "Reesurrection" and "Barbary Coast."

Klein Leaves Roshon

Edward L. Klein, has resigned as director of public relations, advertising and publicity for Russell C. Roshon Organization, national 16mm distributors, to take a long rest.

Selznick to Seek Suit Dismissal

David O. Selznick, through attorneys O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery, applied to the New York Federal Court Friday, for dismissal of a proposed examination of himself before trial in connection with a suit against him, Selznick International, United Artists and Daphne Du Maurier, as filed by Edwina Levin MacDonald, who claims plagiarism of her book, "Blind Windows," in Selznick's "Rebecca." She seeks an injunction and accounting of profits.

Suit was dismissed by Federal Judge William Bondy, but the Circuit court reversed the dismissal on a technicality and sent the action back to the Federal court. Defendants will ask for summary judgment, claiming they had no access to the book, and will ask a dismissal. This is in conformity with the Circuit Court ruling.

Screen 'Master Race' For Press Tonight

A press preview of Edward A. Golden's "The Master Race" will be held at the Waldorf Astoria tonight, followed by a reception.

Principals in the cast of "The Master Race" will arrive in New York today for the Broadway premiere at the Palace Wednesday. In the troupe are Nancy Gates, Ghislaine Perreau, Jason Robards and Eric Feldary. Accompanying them are Herbert J. Biberman, and RKO stars Rosemary La Planche and Greta Christenson. Following a reception here in their honor, the company will leave for St. Louis for personal appearances.

Schine Defense to Take Three Weeks

BUFFALO, Oct. 29.—Introduction of documentary evidence in the Schine trial went into its second day on Friday, leading up to final arguments by Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice and the opening of the defense.

It probably will be several days before Wright begins his summation and before the defense can get under way. The court's Fall term begins Nov. 14, but there has been nothing to indicate trial will be completed by then. Schine intends to take three weeks, it was learned, consuming far less time than the Government.

Among the last few Government witnesses at the weekend was Charles S. Cantwell, managing editor of the Ogdensburg *Journal*, who testified as to a news item on Sept. 26, 1940, relating to the operating policy of Schine's Pontiac.

Ingram and Zoellner, MGM Managers, Due

Louis Ingram, Memphis M-G-M manager, and William B. Zoellner, Atlanta, are scheduled to arrive in New York on Nov. 13, in line with William F. Rodgers' plan to have the executive field force spend a week visiting home office department heads.

Frank Downey, Detroit manager, and Harry Simmons, Milwaukee, left at the weekend after five days here. Today Saal Gottlieb, Pittsburgh manager, and J. G. Kemptgen, Omaha, will arrive to be followed a week later by Clayton Lynch, Los Angeles, and Frank Hensler, Kansas City.

Roy Rogers does a command performance at the famous carnival in Rio de Janeiro and the happy throngs rejoice. Add this to other great names, hit tunes, big production and you've a glimpse of "Brazil," Republic's new super musical.

ADVT.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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Gradual Lift Of Wartime Restrictions

US War Agencies Already Have 'V-E' Blueprints

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30. — War agency officials here are now prepared to put into effect on "V-E Day" plans long since developed in anticipation of the end of hostilities in Europe, paving the way for gradual return of the motion picture and other industries to peacetime conditions.

There will be no sudden and complete lifting of all the restrictions which have been in effect on film and other industrial, trade and private, personal activity since our entry into the war, however, but, rather, a gradual relaxation as changing conditions in the military situation permit.

Thus, there will be no overnight wiping out of War Production Board

(*Continued on page 7*)

Kalmenson to Hold W.B. District Meet

Eight Warner district managers will meet in New York Nov. 9 for a two-day home office conference to be presided over by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager. Forthcoming product and other subjects will be discussed.

Regional executives who will attend are: Norman Ayers, Eastern district manager with headquarters in New York; Robert Smeltzer, Mid-Atlantic; Charles Rich, Central; Harry A. Seed, Midwest; Hall Walsh,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Set '44 Federation Drive Plans Today

Plans for the 1944 drive of the amusement division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies on behalf of the current Federation campaign will be discussed by the division's luncheon meeting to be held today at the Hotel Astor. David Bernstein, who is serving as co-chairman of the division with Major Albert Warner, will preside.

In urging wide support within the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Holdovers Dominate N. Y. First-Runs; 'Marriage' is Big

Holdovers are continuing to dominate Broadway grosses this week but new arrivals are sharing in generally excellent business. Of the new arrivals, "Marriage Is a Private Affair" with a stage bill featuring Bob Strong and his orchestra, Arlene Francis, Johnnie Johnston and Ella Mae Morse is leading the Capitol to a big $75,000 first week on the basis of $50,000 recorded on the first four days ending Sunday night and the combination will continue, to be followed by "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

The Radio City Music Hall, Paramount, Strand and Hollywood are

(*Continued on page 7*)

Depinet Sees WAC Aiding Tax Fight

CHICAGO, Oct. 30. — Amplifying statements made in a recent West Coast address, Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio Pictures president, who is here to attend an industry Sixth War Loan drive meeting, said that all efforts must be made to keep the War Activities Committee alive and active after the war to meet the many problems that will face the industry in the post war period.

His first week's tour in connection with the drive convinced him that the exhibitors will face increased local

(*Continued on page 7*)

Employees Ask For Raise; Get Theatre

Mexico City, Oct. 30.—Demand for a 50% pay hike by employees of the Cine Principal, local second run theatre that was made over 13 years ago from the historic 250-year-old stage theatre of the same name on the same site, won them possession of the business. The exhibitors, stating that they could not afford to meet the pay hike demand, arranged with section No. 1 (theatre employees) of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union and the Federal Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the workers to assume charge of the theatre.

Schine Defense Is Begun; U.S. Rests

BUFFALO, Oct. 30.—The defense of Schine Theatres to Government charges of violations of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act began here this afternoon with an opening address to the court by attorney Edward F. McClennen. The Government had rested its case at 3:27 p.m., when Judge John Knight denied a motion by the defense to strike from the record many letters received in evidence both orally and in writing over the objections of the defense.

McClennen began his defense by declaring that Schine would prefer to

(*Continued on page 6*)

U. S. to Check Liberated Regions for Industry

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30. — Present planners of the U. S. film industry's participation in foreign markets as they are liberated will, like those of other American industries, receive from the Government detailed reports on economic and social conditions and requirements of the freed countries, to aid in their planning.

Bridging the gap since the cessation at the outbreak of the war, of the Department of Commerce's regular reports to the film industry on conditions abroad, the Departments of State and Commerce have jointly dispatched formal instructions to diplomatic, consular and similar U. S. representatives assigned to areas liberated from Axis control to expedite reports on economic conditions and trends within such areas for the guidance of both the Government and American business. (MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported on Oct. 19 that the State and Commerce Departments will make a survey of world markets to determine theatre equipment and projector needs.)

The new instructions call for reports concerning the immediate supply requirements of liberated areas and estimates of economic conditions, interpretative reports covering all aspects of economic and social conditions, analyses of economic conditions as an essential guide to American film and other interests concerned in the resumption of commercial trade.

It was pointed out here that in

(*Continued on page 7*)

Video Shows Not Covered By Copyright

No Precedent for Stars To Protect Likenesses

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

There is no overall legal precedent under the copyright laws which would enable radio broadcasters to prevent exhibitors from taking television programs off the air and projecting these programs in their theatres when video equipment becomes available for theatres in the postwar, according to legal opinion in the film industry.

Also without precedent under the copyright laws is the plan that has been discussed to have Hollywood film personalities copyright their faces against unauthorized use of their likenesses in television programs, the same legal opinion indicates.

There is no prohibition in law

(*Continued on page 6*)

Sauter Reappointed War Finance Head

James E. Sauter has been reappointed chairman of the entertainment industry division of the War Finance Committee for New York, it was announced yesterday by Frederick W. Gehle, state chairman.

Sauter, executive director of the United Theatrical War Activities Committee, has served the Treasury Department as a representative of the entertainment industry since the in-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Rank Canada Deal Announcement Due

TORONTO Oct. 30.—An executive of Odeon Theatres of Canada today stated that a formal announcement on the entry of J. Arthur Rank into the Canadian exhibition field might be forthcoming the middle of next week, when negotiations would probably be at a point where a public statement would be appropriate.

Odeon circuit heads, including Paul

(*Continued on page 6*)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Dark Waters," United Artists, will be found on page 3.

Report Griffis Sale Of Para. Common

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 31.—Only light trading by officers and directors of motion picture corporations in the stocks of their own companies in September was reported today by the Securities and Exchange Commission in its monthly summary.

The largest change in the holdings of any individual came as the result of sales aggregating 2,000 shares of Paramount Pictures common stock held by Stanton Griffis, director, through a trust which at the close of the month still held 4,000 shares.

A report on Monogram Pictures showed sales by W. Ray Johnston, president, of 966 shares of common held direct, leaving him with 17,724 shares, and 900 shares held through Monogram Pictures, Inc., its entire holding. In the same company, Norton V. Richey director, bought 200 shares of common, giving him a total of 4,467 shares. The only other film report showed the acquisition of 11 shares of Loew's Boston Theatres common by Loew's, Inc., giving it a total of 121,232 shares.

A report on Columbia Broadcasting Co. showed that in May, Joseph A W. Iglehart, director, purchased 2,000 shares of class A common through E. W. Hutton & Co., and sold 900 shares, selling the remaining 1,100 in June. Iglehart personally holds 2,600 shares of the stock, the SEC summary showed.

Munson, Service Film Chief, Hails Stamp

Issuance of the new postage stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of motion pictures has been hailed by Col. E. L. Munson, who as chief of the Army Pictorial Service, is in charge of distributing Hollywood's films to the fighting men overseas.

"This anniversary finds the industry more vigorous than ever, entertaining troops and, through front line photography, helping shape the tactical decisions which will bring full victory," the Colonel commented in a letter to George J. Schaefer, War Activities Committee chairman, who will buy the first sheet of stamps in New York today from Postmaster General Frank Walker and New York Postmaster Albert Goldman.

Pickford to Get Stamps

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 30.—Mary Pickford, representing the industry, will be presented by Postmistress Mary Briggs with a special issue of the new three-cent stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of motion pictures in a ceremony at the post office here Tuesday. Cecil B. DeMille will preside over the program, which the Blue Network will broadcast.

Margaret Welsh Resigns

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 30.—Margaret Welsh, manager of the state board of motion picture censorship office here for 22 years, has resigned to join the Richard A. Foley advertising agency.

Personal Mention

NEIL AGNEW, vice president of Vanguard Films, arrived in Hollywood from New York yesterday for conferences with DAVID O. SELZNICK and DANIEL O'SHEA. JACK GOLDSTEIN, Eastern director of publicity and exploitation, arrived Sunday night for talks with the studio publicity staff.

•

WILLIAM J. HEINEMAN, general sales manager for SAMUEL GOLDWYN, returned to New York at the weekend from the Coast.

•

LOU POLLOCK, United Artists advertising and publicity director, was confined to his home yesterday with an injury.

•

CEDRIC GIBBONS, M-G-M art director, will arrive in New York from the Coast on Friday accompanied by MRS. GIBBONS.

•

JOE PASTERNACK will arrive in New York from the Coast on Nov. 25 for a two-week stay, accompanied by his wife.

•

JOHN NESBITT, M-G-M commentator, will arrive from the Coast on Friday.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern division sales manager, left yesterday for Philadelphia.

•

W. STEWART MCDONALD, Warner Theatres executive, has returned from a Midwest trip.

PANDRO BERMAN, producer, arrived in New York from the Coast over the weekend.

•

PVT. MARCUS LOEW, grandson of the late MARCUS LOEW, and ETHEL SNYDER have obtained a marriage license at Denver and plan to be married next week. MR. AND MRS. DAVID LOEW, parents of the prospective bridegroom, will arrive in Denver today.

•

ROBERT R. DEITCH, manager of the Dewitt Theatre, Bayonne, New Jersey, is the father of a son, JOEL BENNETT, born Oct. 19, in Jersey City.

•

ALEC MOSS, Paramount exploitation manager, left New York yesterday for Boston, and then the Midwest.

•

ARTHUR C. BROMBERG, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, Atlanta, is in New Orleans attending sales meetings.

•

IRVING YERGIN, manager of Warner's field exploitation staff, left over the weekend for Chicago.

•

MERITT DAVIS, Republic Southern district manager at Atlanta, is on the sick list.

•

PERRY SPENCER has been appointed Southern publicity director for Universal, with headquarters in Atlanta.

•

RALPH H. CLARK, Canadian division manager for Warners, is in New York for home office conferences.

RKO and Managers Resume Pact Talks

RKO officials and representatives of the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild representing managers and assistant managers in the 40 RKO Theatres in the Metropolitan area, will resume negotiations today after a two-week delay.

RKO has indicated that it will make counter proposals to the Guild's wage demands at today's meeting. The Guild had indicated that it would consider negotiations broken off and would take the case to the New York State Board of Mediation if RKO did not set a retroactive date for wage increases, but has agreed to continue negotiations without such a date having been set yet.

Wright of Para. Is Named by Tax Group

Harry Wright of Paramount has been elected chairman of the board of directors of the Tax Executives Institute, recently incorporated in New York state for the purpose of bringing together executives concerned with taxation problems.

'Alaska' Premiere Set

OMAHA, Oct. 30.—The world premiere of Monogram's "Alaska" has been set for the State Theatre here Saturday.

Democratic Showmen Turn Out for Rally

The Theatrical and Motion Picture Committee for Roosevelt-Truman-Wagner, with John Golden and Louis Nizer as co-chairman, gave a luncheon at $5 a plate in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Astor yesterday, with the packed room holding many well known executives and actors. Speeches were delivered by the chairmen, by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Senator Robert F. Wagner and Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia. Frank Sinatra sang the national anthem.

A few of those in the capacity turnout included Barney Balaban, David Bernstein, Harry Brandt, William Brandt, George Cukor, Howard Dietz, Jesse L. Lasky, Lewis Milestone, Albert and Harry Warner, Jack Cohn, Nicholas Schenck, Nate J. Blumberg, Charles Moskowitz, Sam Rinzler, Jules Brulatour, George Dembow, Leon Fromkess, Carl Leserman, Irving Lesser, Walter Reade, Emanuel and Murray Silverstone, Leon Netter, Irving Wormser, Maurice Bergman, William Erbb and Nat Cohn.

400 See 'Race'

An invitation audience of about 400, including RKO executives and representatives of the daily, radio and trade press saw a special preview of Edward A. Golden's "The Master Race" at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here last night.

Constance Bennett Closes U. A. Deal

Constance Bennett and United Artists yesterday signed a one picture deal whereby Miss Bennett will produce "Paris Underground" for U. A. release. Production will get under way before the end of the year, it is planned. Miss Bennett is currently negotiating with a British musical actress for the lead.

Austrian to Speak

Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice president of RKO Television Corp., will address the Publicity Club of New York, Thursday, at the Belmont Plaza Hotel on "Television as an Aid to Public Relations."

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
STARTS TOMORROW
SUPER-SHOCK SENSATION!
"THE MASTER RACE"
George COULOURIS Stanley RIDGES
Osa MASSEN Carl ESMOND

PARAMOUNT'S
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay"
starring
Gail RUSSELL - Diana LYNN
with Charlie Ruggles - Dorothy Gish
IN PERSON—FRANK SINATRA
plus Eileen Barton
RAYMOND PAIGE and his orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
DAVID O. SELZNICK'S
'SINCE YOU WENT AWAY'
IN PERSON
WILL OSBORNE
and Orchestra

Vivien LEIGH Robert TAYLOR
In M-G-M's
WATERLOO BRIDGE
REPUBLIC
B'way Bet. 51st and 52nd Sts.
Phone CO 5-9647 Midnite Shows

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'Mrs. Parkington' Is Big Cincinnati Hit

CINCINNATI, Oct. 30.—Continuous clicking of turnstiles at RKO's Albee indicate a tremendous $23,000 for "Mrs. Parkington." The $9,500 above average is the highest all-picture gross at this house in many months. "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" is headed for an approximate $9,000 at RKO's Grand, where $6,500 is average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 1-4:

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000).

"The Unwritten Code" (Col.)
"Stagecoach to Monterey" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,400).

"Three of a Kind" (Mono.)
"Special Inspector" (British)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average: $800).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Second week moveover from the Albee. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,500).

"Carolina Blues" (Col.)
KEITH'S — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000).

"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,000).

"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,500).

"The Conspirators" (WB)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 2 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

K.C. Takes $11,500 Worth of 'Arsenic'

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 30.—The Orpheum led off again this week with "Arsenic and Old Lace" in a third week holdover doing around $11,500. The Midland, with "Barbary Coast Gent," slowed down to about an average $14,500 for the week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31-Nov. 3.

"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,400).

"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND — (3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $14,000).

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,000).

"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.) "Minstrel Man" (PRC) Plus stage revue with Rubinoff
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $9,400).

"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
UPTOWN — (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY — (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,600).

Slezak's Father Fined

Leo Slezak, father of film actor Walter Slezak, has been fined 100,000 marks by the Nazis in reprisal for his son's appearance in American anti-Nazi films, according to dispatches arriving here from Stockholm. The films are "This Land Is Mine" and "Lifeboat," both of which were seen by Adolph Hitler and other Nazi officials after prints were seized from ships sailing on safe-conduct passes between Sweden, England and the U. S.

Review

"Dark Waters"

(Benedict Bogeaus-United Artists)

AFTER mentally noting that Benedict Bogeaus' second production for United Artists, "Dark Waters," was an absorbing study of a distraught mind which falters from shock and was, consequently, suited for class situations, this reviewer had to revamp his original calculation, for the film is finally climaxed as a harrowing manhunt that compresses a good deal of horror. A sensitive performance by Merle Oberon; Franchot Tone's sympathetic portrayal of a doctor, and the suave menace of Thomas Mitchell make this good cinema which should yield a goodly harvest in all situations.

With the sure hand of Andre De Toth to guide it, the film sustains interest throughout as it unfolds the story of Miss Oberon, a survivor from a shipwreck and suffering from shock, who goes into the bayou country of Louisiana to recover. She stumbles, however, into a situation which almost unhinges her mind as Mitchell utilizes various tricks to induce hallucinations in her exhausted brain so as to dispose of her as an unwelcome intruder. Previous owners of the plantation have fallen victim to Mitchell and his deadly henchman, Elisha Cook, Jr., and only the girl, who has come to visit her supposed aunt and uncle, Fay Bainter and John Qualen, stands in his way to the land. The closing sequences, wherein Miss Oberon and Tone, who have fallen in love, escape into the bayou after having been marked for destruction by Mitchell, are taut with suspense and calculated to send genuine tremors up and down the spine. Cook meets a horrible death in the quicksand and Mitchell surrenders after being tricked into believing that he, too, is surrounded by quicksand.

The brooding bayous of Louisiana are a photographers' paradise and Archie Stout and John Mescall make the most of them. Dr. Miklos Roza contributes a fine score which contains several piping French folk tunes in a dance sequence which is the only one which is not oppressive and is a welcome one. Benedict Bogeaus produced; James Nasser was executive producer; Frank and Marian Cockrell did the original from their *Saturday Evening Post* serial, and Joan Harrison and Miss Cockrell are credited with the screenplay. Rex Ingram, Odette Myrtil, Eugene Borden, Eileen Coghlan, Nina May McKinney, Alan Napier and Rita Beery round out the cast.

Running time, 90 minutes. "G."* Release date not set. CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

One Clearance Case Filed, 1 Dropped

A new clearance complaint has been filed in the Boston tribunal, while one has been withdrawn in the Omaha tribunal, the American Arbitration Asssociation reported here yesterday.

Hollis G. Reed, operator of the Neptune Theatre, McKinley, Me., has filed a clearance case in Boston against Paramount and Warners. He charges that the 14-day clearance in favor of the Criterion, Bar Harbor, Me., is unreasonable and asks that it be eliminated. Named as interested parties are the Park Theatre, Southwest Harbor, Me.; the Ellsworth, Ellsworth, Me., and the Pastime, Northeast, Me.

In Omaha, Rose Karatz, who operates the Victory, Sioux City, Ia., has withdrawn a clearance complaint against 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, Warners and Paramount. The case was dismissed by a general stipulation signed by all parties.

Edgar Kobak Named President of Mutual

Edgar Kobak, who last week resigned as executive vice-president of Blue Network Co., Inc., will assume the presidency of the Mutual Broadcasting System on Nov. 20, according to announcement yesterday by Mutual's board of directors. Kobak will succeed Miller McClintock.

Fox Buys Monogram

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 30.—Monogram has closed with Fox-West Coast's California circuit for its 1944-45 product.

'Army at War' Will Play in 29 Cities

Charles P. Skouras chairman of the national executive committee of the Army At War exhibition, today announced that the exhibition will open in Rochester on Friday, following a three week run at the Roxy Theatre, New York, which will conclude today. During the run at the Roxy, it is estimated that approximately 80,000 persons attended, which is believed to be the largest attendance at any art exhibition held anywhere within a similar period of time.

The exhibition will play the following cities after the Rochester engagement in consecutive order: Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Denver, Kansas City, Dallas, Houston, New Orleans, Atlanta, St. Louis Indianapolis, Louisville, Cincinnati, Columbus, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Newark and Boston. On July 23, 1945, the exhibition will play a return engagement in Washington.

H. Heybeck, Helped Design M. H., Dead

H. H. Heybeck, architect associated with the Walter Dorwin Teague office here, who designed some of the seating and interior layouts of Radio City Music Hall and the Center Theatre, died late last week at his Chappaqua, N. Y., home. He was 55 years old.

Republic Signs Odeon

TORONTO, Oct. 30. — Republic has closed with Odeon Theatres for its 1944-45 product.

Expand Coverage of New Building Code

A resolution favoring requirements for structural stability for all places and buildings subject to the labor laws, including store buildings and factories, has been adopted by the New York State Labor Department's advisory committee which has been holding meetings to promulgate a revised building code for theatres and other places of public assembly in all parts of the state except New York City.

Progress is being made on the code being drafted and the provisions will undoubtedly apply to all new places of public assembly, including theatres, which are contemplated for New York State in the postwar period. Completion of the code is expected before the end of this year. The New York State Board of Standards and Appeals will hold public hearings on the new code before it is made law so that theatre owners in New York State can register their views.

The next meeting of the advisory committee will be held Nov. 9-10. Industry representatives on the committee include; Henry Anderson, Paramount; Martin J. Tracey, Century Circuit; Theodore Junge, alternate for Harry Moskowitz of Loew's, and Glen H. Humphrey of projectionists' Local 337.

'Marriage' Tops in Balto. at $20,000

BALTIMORE, Oct. 30.—The best pictures are doing big business this week, leaving the less important attractions with barely average grosses.

For the major shows, openings were strong and likewise the weekend. In top rank is "Marriage Is A Private Affair," with $20,000 at the Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 2:

"Marriage is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,000).

"San Diego I Love You" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,000).

"The Conspirators" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,000).

"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage Show: Jan Murray; Bill and Cora Baird; Jean, Jack & Judy; Eleanor Bowers. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $18,500).

"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).

A. Sorenson, Jr., Killed

Solemn requiem Mass will be said for T. Sgt. Arthur A. Sorenson, Jr., at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Brooklyn, next Saturday morning. Word of his death in action near Aachen, Germany, on Oct. 12, was received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Sorenson. The father is an editor of 20th Century-Fox Movietone News here.

M. L. Curry Is Dead

ATLANTA, Oct. 30.—M. L. Curry, formerly of the Colonial Theatre, Milledgeville, Ga., and more recently with Wometco Circuit, Miami, died last week following a heart attack. Curry had been with Universal at one time and also was with the Avondale Theatre here.

PLUS VALUE...
A GREAT CAST in
A GREAT THRILLER!
MERLE
OBERO
in
Da
"THESE 'DARK WATERS' SPARKLE."
—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Ready NOW at U.A.!
EAR LURKED IN THE SHADOWS OF THE GLOOMY BAYOU!
Greed, hate and murder hang like an evil mist over the sinister swamps at this Louisiana plantation!
enedict Bogeaus Productions presents
RANCHOT THOMAS
TONE · MITCHELL
k Waters
with
FAY BAINTER
JOHN QUALEN · ELISHA COOK, JR.
PRODUCED BY BENEDICT BOGEAUS · DIRECTED BY ANDRE DeTOTH
Original Story by Frank and Marian Cockrell · Screenplay by Joan Harrison and Marian Cockrell · RELEASED THRU UNITED ARTISTS
From the sensational SATURDAY EVENING POST serial by Frank and Marian Cockrell

Coast Filming Rises to 45, From a Low 39

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30. — Production took a spurt forward last week, as 11 new features were started, and work was completed on only five others. Total before the cameras was 45, compared to 39 in the preceding week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Let's Go Steady."

Started: "I Love a Mystery," with Jim Bannon, Nina Foch.

Shooting: "Our Wandering Daughters," "One Against Seven."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Without Love," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Hold High the Torch," "Women's Army," "Son of Lassie," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Shooting: "John Dillinger."

Paramount

Started: "The Lost Weekend," with Ray Milland, Jane Wyman, Philip Terry, Doris Dowling, Howard da Silva; "The Love Letters," with Jennifer Jones, Joseph Cotten, Ann Richards, Cecil Kellaway and Derek Cooper; "The Affairs of Susan," with Joan Fontaine, George Brent, Dennis O'Keefe.

Shooting: "Duffy's Tavern," "Salty O'Rourke," "Miss Susie Slagle" (formerly "The Golden Years.").

PRC

Finished: "The Whispering Skull," "The Kid Sister."

Started: "Fog Island," with Sharon Douglas, George Zucco, Jerome Cowan, Lionel Atwill, Veda Ann Borg; "Marked for Murder," with Tex Ritter, Dave O'Brien, Guy Wilkerson, Ed Cassidy.

RKO Radio

Started: "The Body Snatcher," with Boris Karloff, Bela Lugosi, Edith Atwater, Henry Daniell.

Shooting: "The Enchanted Cottage," "West of the Pecos," "Isle of the Dead" (temporarily suspended), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn), "Tarzan and the Amazons" (Lesser).

Republic

Started: "Earl Carroll's Vanities," with Dennis O'Keefe, Constance Moore, Eve Arden, Alan Mowbray, "Pinky" Lee, Woody Herman and his orchestra.

Shooting: "The Phantom Speaks," "A Daring Holiday."

20th Century-Fox

Started: "Circumstantial Evidence," with Michael O'Shea, Lloyd Nolan, Trudy Marshall, Ruth Ford, Reed Hadley, Roy Roberts.

Shooting: "Bon Voyage" (temporarily suspended), "A Royal Scandal"; "Where Do We Go from Here?" "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," "Hangover Square."

United Artists

Finished: "It's in the Bag" (Skirball).

Started: "A Walk in the Sun" (Samuel Bronston), with Dana Andrews, Barton Hepburn, Lloyd Bridges, Matt Willis, Luis Rosado.

Shooting: "Blood on the Sun" (Cagney), "Hold Autumn in Your Hand" (PAC).

Universal

Finished: "The Suspect."

Started: "Here Come the Co-Eds," with Abbott and Costello, Donald Cook, June Vincent, Peggy Ryan, Martha O'Driscoll, Charles Dingle, Lon Chaney, Jr.

Shooting: "Salome—Where She Danced," "Frisco Sal," "She Gets Her Man."

Warners

Shooting: "The Big Sleep," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Nobody Lives Forever," "San Antonio."

No Copyright Protection On Video Shows, Stars

(*Continued from page* 1)

which would prevent an exhibitor from picking up certain types of television programs even if the broadcasters attempt to invoke the right of privacy to prevent exhibitors from doing so, it is pointed out. Only telecasts involving the use of literary, musical or dramatic source material can be protected by copyright, it is said. However, broadcasters cannot use films without permission in their telecasts under existing copyright laws.

Should the radio industry attempt to prevent exhibitors from taking telecasts off the air, the ensuing battle would presumably be on the basis of an invasion of the rights of privacy, it is assumed. The possible precedent in this case is the split U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Associated Press vs. the International News Service case, where the court felt the accumulation of news and facts gave the accumulator a property right in the information assembled.

New York State has a common law statute on the right of privacy but with certain exceptions. Though these exceptions serve to prevent the use of the images of Hollywood personalities in connection with advertising and trade without their authorization, they are not viewed as likely to enable these Hollywood personalities to prevent the use of their likenesses if they were picked up during the telecasting of an outdoor or indoor event at which they happened to be present.

Although Great Britain does have a law which gives copyright to recordings and provides for criminal action in case of violations, U. S. copyright law has no uniform interpretation along these lines. When Fred Waring sued to prevent a Pennsylvania radio station from broadcasting his recordings in connection with their advertising, he was upheld by the state courts of Pennsylvania, which ruled that his common law rights had been violated, but Federal Courts in New York held that his common law right had been transferred by the public sale of the record. Several Congressmen sought to introduce a revision of the copyright laws some years ago which would have provided protection on recordings similar to that in Great Britain, but nothing came of the attempt, it is said.

The general feeling is that once any sort of sports event is telecast to the public, there is no legal basis to prevent exhibitors from picking up this event and projecting it in theatres, but a long drawn-out legal battle is expected to result between the radio and film industries on the point once it becomes a reality.

Sudekum Plans 2 Cumberland Houses

McMINNVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 30.—Cumberland Amusement Co., with headquarters here, of which Tony Sudekum, head of Crescent Amusement Co., is president, is planning two additional new theatres. One house will be in the Red Banks section of Chattanooga. Planned to seat 1,400, the house will cost approximately $150,000. The other theatre, to seat 900, will represent an investment of $75,000. Speight and Hibbs of Clarksville are the architects for both projects. The two new theatres will make a total of 17 houses for Cumberland and more than 100 for Crescent and affiliates. It is reported here that the injunction in the Government anti-trust suit against theatre combines forbids acquisitions in competitive areas but does not refer to the construction of new houses.

Sudekum also has purchased the Vauxhall Apartment House in Nashville. He is reported to be planning to clear the site but his building plans have not been revealed. The cost of the tract was about $175,000.

Disney CIAA Films On RCA Video Show

Walt Disney films made for the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs will be used in a new television program titled "The World in Your Home," sponsored by the RCA Victor Division to start Nov. 17 over NBC's New York television station WNBT, it was announced yesterday by John F. Royal, NBC vice-president in charge of television, and Charles B. Brown, RCA Victor advertising manager. Live talent will also be used in this new program series which will feature entertainment, sports news and special events as well as science and education.

Among the Disney CIAA films, subjects which will be televised are "Defense Against Invasion" and "Grain That Built A Hemisphere." Other selected films dealing with electronics, chemistry and associated science topics will also be scheduled.

John T. Williams, NBC manager of television, Paul Alley, film program manager and Dr. Herbert Graf, television opera producer, will all supervise.

Rank Canada Deal Announcement Due

(*Continued from page* 1)

Nathanson and general manager Haskell Masters, are remaining in Toronto, where John Davis of London, personal representative of Rank, has not yet arrived. It is rumored here that Davis is already in New York on business involving the distribution of British films in the U. S. and has been in touch with Canadian Odeon officials from there.

Sauter Reappointed War Finance Head

(*Continued from page* 1)

ception of the war bond organization in New York in 1941. He holds a similar position with both the American Red Cross and New York War Fund.

Record Breaking 306 At Kansas City Rally

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 30.—Before 306 exhibitors, distributors and guests from Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Illinois and Texas, the message of theatres' participation in the Sixth War Loan drive was brought to reality at a luncheon meeeting held at the Muehlebach Hotel here.

The national committee was represented by Harry Brandt, chairman; Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman; John Hertz, Jr., publicity chairman; Captain Raymond W. Wild, Fred Wehrenberg and John Rugar, co-chairman. Speakers representing the Treasury Department included David Beals, local War Finance committee chairman; Dan M. Nee, Internal Revenue Department executive, and Harvey Pierce, representing the Treasury Department of Kansas.

Also in attendance were Tom Edwards of Eldon, Mo., president of the Missouri-Kansas Theatre Owners Association; Rex Barrett, co-chairman for Eastern Missouri; H. E. Jameyson, Kansas State chairman; J. B. Underwood, Dallas, Texas War Activities official; Joe Garrison, Missouri exchange territory distributor chairman; Jerry Zigmond, Missouri public relations chairman; Woody Barrett, public relations state chairman for Kansas; Jack Langdon, Kansas City-Missouri distributor chairman; Senn Lawler, Missouri co-chairman, acting as toastmaster.

Schine Defense Is Begun; U. S. Rests

(*Continued from page* 1)

make no prediction as to the length of time that will be required to complete its case. He stated, however, that it would take considerably less than the 29 days required by the Government for its case.

"There is not and there will be no evidence calling for a finding that there has been a conspiracy by the defendant to restrain interstate commerce," McClennen said. "The only conspiracy alleged is a separate one by the defendants with certain distributors. These distributors are not parties to this case. The plaintiff does not make any charge against the distributors. The plaintiff continues to charge against Schine only that Schine conspired with individual distributors alone. There has been in plaintiff's evidence no evidence of any one of these eight separate conspiracies. I predict that at the close of the entire evidence, there will be none," he stated.

McClennen declared an exhibitor of motion pictures is not in the business of interstate commerce, but that a distributor of motion pictures frequently is. "An exhibitor of motion pictures is no more engaged in interstate commerce than the man who runs the village grocery store in the same town," said McClennen. "His business is a local business. So is the exhibition of motion pictures. Nothing could be more definitely local." McClennen's opening statement will be continued when court resumes today.

Gradual Lift Of Wartime Restrictions

(Continued from page 1)

controls over materials and production, which would lead to a reconversion race on the part of all industry. Instead, the regulations will be eased off as termination of war production releases factories, manpower and materials for civilian operations.

With the eventual tapering-off of military needs, motors, ball bearings and electronic and other parts will become available to projector and sound equipment manufacturers, permitting them quickly to produce equipment which exhibitors have long awaited.

Theatre furnishings also will come on to the market quickly, and it is expected no time will be lost in raising the barriers which have prevented construction of new theatres for the past two years or more.

Rationing and price controls will be continued until the need for them disappears. Rationing will be eliminated, product by product, as supplies of controlled commodities become adequate; price controls will be continued until the danger of run-away markets and inflation has ended.

Quick Action

In other branches of the Government, quick action is expected to tear down the war machinery. The Office of War Information will curtail its activities all along the line, but may find an important new field in conditioning the world for peace. War-censorship regulations, never unduly oneros, will be relaxed to the extent compatible with the fact that we are still at war with Japan. The State Department is expected to reassert itself as the liaison between Washington and other governments and take over such activities of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs as will be carried over to peacetime.

The war agencies, however, will not be abolished overnight. All of them will have to take stock and dismantle gradually, and in a manner conforming to the over-all plan for transition from a war to a peace economy by which it is hoped to avert a major disorganization of industry, heavy unemployment and inflation.

Depinet Sees WAC Aiding Tax Fight

(Continued from page 1)

and statewide tax legislation in the future, and that the WAC is in a favorable position to represent the entire industry effectively, he said. Depinet stated that the men in service who will govern our country in the postwar years will come back with a more favorable viewpoint of the industry as a result of WAC's current efforts in servicing them with hundreds of prints of the latest and best releases.

He revealed the WAC stands ready to undertake more bond drives and help in numerous other war time campaigns to come before the last shot is fired.

U.S. to Check On Liberated

(Continued from page 1)

some areas an immediate and full return to private trade will not be possible because of disrupted economic conditions. "The economic and trade reporting from these territories will, therefore, be particularly helpful during this interim period," according to the Department of Commerce.

Officers of the Foreign Service are being reminded that American trade interests desire information regarding the condition of their business contacts and interests in liberated areas.

In the case of branches or affiliated companies, American businessmen wish to know the condition of these properties, how they were employed during the war, the state of inventories and organization, and the factors involved in resuming business.

Market Status

"Where American businessmen before the war operated through agency or distributor arrangements, they wish to know the status of former marketing or purchasing connections, their financial condition and the possibilities of making a new start," said the Department.

Foreign Service officers are also being advised by the Government that particular attention should be given to the acquisition by the Axis of former American interests in liberated areas, as well as any transfer of ownership or control within liberated areas of trading companies, distributor or agency concerns, and similar commercial organizations.

They are likewise being advised that it is anticipated that various legal questions [will arise] regarding the ossibility of recovering damages, realizing upon old debts, the validity of contracts, patent rights, and the like, and that information generally applicable to such problems in liberated areas should be reported.

Set '44 Federation Drive Plans Today

(Continued from page 1)

industry to the Federation appeal benefiting 116 charitable institutions, Bernstein declared: "The amusement division has long and faithfully served the cause of Federation. This year, perhaps more than ever before, it is important that we enlist our wholehearted aid behind the campaign as Federation continues the regular support of its medical and social welfare member agencies while preparing these institutions to serve the community in the rapidly approaching post-war period."

More than 50 leaders of the industry are expected to attend the meeting at which the division's campaign officers will be named. George Z. Medalie, president of Federation, is to be the guest speaker.

P. L. Smith Joins Y. & R.

P. L. Smith, formerly with Paramount's home office short subjects department, yesterday joined the motion picture division of the Young & Rubicam agency as assistant to John Barry, division head.

Holdovers Dominate N. Y. First-Runs; 'Marriage' is Big

(Continued from page 1)

scoring impressively with holdover films. The Music Hall expects an outstanding third week of $124,000 with "Mrs. Parkington" and its "American Rhapsody" stage presentation on the basis of $75,000 recorded on the first four days ending Sunday night. This will be about the same as the second week and the combination will continue. The Roxy expects a big $86,000 on the third week of "Laura" and its stage bill featuring Hazel Scott and Jackie Miles and it will hold the combination for a final six days of a fourth week, bringing in "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" on Election Day. The Paramount's third and final week's receipts with "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" and a Frank Sinatra personal appearance will be a lusty $89,000, the same as the second week. "I love a Soldier" and a stage show featuring Tony Pastor and band, Bert Wheeler and Hal LeRoy will open at the Paramount tomorrow. The Strand expects a second week of $50,000 with "The Conspirators" and a Les Brown and band stage presentation on the basis of a Friday to Sunday take of $25,225. An excellent third week of $37,000 is expected by the Hollywood with "To Have and Have Not" and the films at both the Strand and Hollywood will continue.

Newcomers Score

The new arrivals "Abroad With Two Yanks" at the Globe and "Rainbow Island" at the Criterion are bringing good business. The Globe expects a profitable $21,000 on the first week and $26,000 is expected on the first week of "Rainbow Island" at the Criterion. "Lost in a Harem" will be the next film at the Criterion.

The long run films "Kismet" at the Astor and "Frenchman's Creek" at the Rivoli are continuing profitably. A sixth week of $41,000 is expected for "Creek" and a 10th week of $18,000 was recorded for "Kismet."

'Storm' Holds Up

"Summer Storm" is holding up excellently at the Gotham and a strong $17,000 is expected on the second week and the film will continue. The return engagement of "Waterloo Bridge" at the Republic is expected to bring about $12,000 on a first week which is excellent and the film will continue. The Palace expects a good $11,500 on the final five days of a second week of "Heavenly Days" and "The Master Race" will open tomorrow.

The Rialto expects a good $10,000 on its first week with "Murder in the Blue Room" and it will hold the film for a second week. The Victoria is also expected to gross $10,000 on its fifth week with "Wilson," this in the face of competition from the RKO houses in the Metropolitan area which played the film for three days last Monday through Wednesday.

Spiegel Will Filed

CHICAGO, Oct. 30.—Sidney M. Spiegel, Jr., vice-president and treasurer of the Essaness Theatre Circuit here, who died Oct. 19, left an estate estimated at $500,000. The will, filed in probate court, left the entire estate to his widow.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 30

JAY GORNEY'S first producer assignment for Columbia will be the Latin-American musical, "Fiesta Town." . . . Robert Florey will direct "Don Juan," Errol Flynn's next starring vehicle, which Jerry Wald will produce for Warners. . . . RKO has exercised its option on the contracts of Russ Hopton and Sharyn Moffett. . . . Peggy Ann Garner and Monty Woolley will have the leads in "The Enchanted Voyage." It is based on the Robert Natnan book, and Walter Morosco will produce it for 20th Century-Fox.

•

W. R. Frank has closed with Herbert Kline to direct another picture for him. Harry Davenport and Jerry Hunter will be included in the cast. . . . Alan Mowbray will portray a liquor-loving grand duke in Republic's "Earl Carroll's Vanities." . . . Connie Gilchrist has been added to the cast of M-G-M's "Weekend at the Waldorf." . . . Sidney Sutherland is working on the screenplay of "Divorce," first of Kay Francis' features for Monogram.

•

PRC has purchased "Detour," a novel by Martin Goldsmith, and plans production early next year. . . . Agnes Christine Johnston has been assigned to do the screenplay on "Janie Gets Married." This is a Warner production, formerly titled "Janie Meets the Marines" . . . Tito Guizar, Mexican singing star, has signed a new contract with Republic, under the terms of which he will make one and possibly two pictures for that studio within the next year.

Kalmenson to Hold W.B. District Meet

(Continued from page 1)

Prairie; R. L. McCoy, Southern; Henry Herbel, West Coast, and Ralph H. Clark, Canadian.

Charles Einfeld, director of advertising and publicity, who is at present in New York, will address one of the sessions.

Home office executives who will participate include Mort Blumenstock, in charge of advertising and publicity in the East; Arthur Sachson, assistant general sales manager; Roy Haines, Eastern and Southern division sales manager; Jules Lapidus, Eastern division sales manager; Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager; I. F. Dolid, supervisor of exchanges; Ed Hinchy, playdate department head; Stanley Hatch, contract sales manager, and others.

Variety to Elect Nov. 6

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30. — Variety Club here will hold elections on Nov. 6. Recent inductees include: Anthony Fursee, M-G-M salesman; Jack Edmond, station WMAL; Bill Herson and Earl Godwin, radio commentators, and CPO Bill Jones, U. S. Navy film distribution department. Stephen Early, executive assistant to President Roosevelt, was named an honorary member.

An Event

To Deanna Durbin achievement is now a matter of course.

But we CAN'T HELP SINGING the praises of Deanna's first Technicolor production, "CAN'T HELP SINGING," which becomes an event that not only Universal heralds with exceeding joy, but which exhibitors and the public will acclaim as one of the most entertaining pictures of all time.

Deanna DURBIN

CAN'T HELP SINGING

IN TECHNICOLOR

with ROBERT PAIGE
AKIM TAMIROFF

DAVID BRUCE LEONID KINSKEY RAY COLLINS JUNE VINCENT ANDREW TOMBES THOMAS GOMEZ

Directed by FRANK RYAN Produced by FELIX JACKSON Assoc Producer FRANK SHAW Music by JEROME KERN Lyrics by E Y HARBURG

Screen Play by LEWIS R. FOSTER and FRANK RYAN - Story by John Klorer and Leo Townsend

Based on "Girl of The Overland Trail" by Samuel J. and Curtis B. Warshawsky A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

P. S. It now makes us happy to inform the motion picture industry that "CAN'T HELP SINGING" will be ready for Christmas and New Years.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 85 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1944 TEN CENTS

Sell Maxwell Holdings in ABP Circuit

Group Also Seeks to Acquire WB Interest

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Oct. 31. — Following prolonged and secret negotiations, a syndicate headed by John Gibson Jarvie, financial authority backed by the Bank of England, has contracted to acquire Mrs. John Maxwell's 25 per cent interest in Associated British Picture Corp. Philip A. Warter, a director of ABPC and Mrs. Maxwell's son-in-law, being a member of the syndicate, has been proposed as formal chairman of the ABPC board.

The syndicate, on good authority, also aspires to buy Warners 25 per cent interest in ABPC. The deal, hitherto a closely guarded secret until the close of tonight's stock market, is anticipated to create a sensation in tomorrow's trading.

The deal also emerges as an un-

(Continued on page 3)

Federation's Fund Appeal

George Z. Medalie, president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, called upon the film and amusement industries to exceed their contributions of previous years to provide ample funds for the expansion of Federation's activities on a sound financial basis at a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Astor here yesterday. The meeting was called by the amusement division of Federation's 1944 campaign of which David Bernstein

(Continued on page 3)

Anniversary Stamp Is Placed on Sale

The new three-cent postage stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of motion pictures went on sale in New York and Hollywood yesterday to the accompaniment of appropriate ceremonies. On the Coast, Postmistress Mary Briggs made the first sale of the stamps to John C. Flinn, War Activities Committee Hollywood di-

(Continued on page 3)

600 Theatres Here Will Collect for New York War Fund

About 600 theatres in the Greater New York area will participate in the New York War Fund's 1944-45 campaign by taking up collections from patrons from Dec. 14-20. The decision to participate in this manner for the first time was made at a meeting of representatives of the War Activities Committee of New York. Theatres collected funds for USO two years ago but did not participate in this manner in the New York War Fund drive last year when the USO appeal became part of the NYWF drive.

Edward Rugoff of the Rugoff and Becker circuit is heading the theatre collection drive and Fred Schwartz of

(Continued on page 3)

Setting Plans for N.Y. Bond Meeting

Major L. E. Thompson and David Weinstock will take charge of arrangements for the industry's Sixth War Loan campaign breakfast to be held at the Hotel Astor in New York, Nov. 17, at the request of Malcolm Kingsberg, chairman of the industry's campaign for the New York area.

In addition to all theatre managers in the New York area and those in sections of New Jersey where Harry Lowenstein and Frank Damis are the chairmen, the breakfast will be attended by district and branch managers, salesmen from all the companies in New York and Albany, home

(Continued on page 10)

U.S. DECREE MOVE HERE THIS MONTH

H. R. Robb, Circuit Head, Dead at 55

DALLAS, Oct. 31.—Harold R. Robb, president of Robb & Rowley Theatres, Inc., with headquarters here, died late yesterday following a lengthy illness during which he was confined in St. Paul Hospital here. He was 55 years old.

Robb is survived by his wife; a son, Harold R. Robb, Jr., now stationed at the Corpus Christi, Tex., Naval Air Station, and a daughter, Mrs. Hubert Cook of Riverside, Cal.

Funeral services and burial will be held on Wednesday in Big Spring, Texas.

Robb started in show business in

(Continued on page 10)

Decision This Week In Studio Dispute

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31.—The jurisdictional dispute between Screen Set Decorators Local 1421 and IATSE Local 44, which resulted in a studio walkout ended three weeks ago, may be settled this week by the National War Labor Board in Washington, which today wired the contestants that the matter has been assigned to American Federation of Labor members of the NWLB.

Assurance that the case will be ex-

(Continued on page 3)

Will Ask N. Y. Court For Hearing Promptly After Schine Suit End

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31. — The Department of Justice plans to press the consent decree case in New York just as soon as the Schine trial at Buffalo is concluded, and expects to get a hearing before Judge Henry W. Goddard some time in December, it was disclosed today.

The Department will not wait for the Buffalo court to render its verdict in the Schine suit before moving on to its next case, the show-down over the proposed expansion of the consent decree.

Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, head of the anti-trust division, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the attorney general in charge of the motion picture unit, who is conducting the Schine case, has reported that the Schine trial should wind up

(Continued on page 10)

Schine Takes Witness Stand

BUFFALO, Oct. 31.—The second day of the defense of the Schine Theatres, Inc., to Government charges of violations of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, was featured by continuation of the opening address of defense counsel Edward S. McClennen, who said the "creation of a theatre circuit contributes to, instead of restrains interstate commerce, within the meaning of the Sherman act."

McClennen said that none of the

(Continued on page 10)

Inquiring Reporter Asks: 'Should Stars Campaign?'

By SAM HONIGBERG

CHICAGO, Oct. 31. — Individuals prominent in the industry, here to attend a Sixth War Loan drive meeting, were divided in their opinions on the desirability of screen stars giving public support to candidates in the Presidential campaign.

The opinions were expressed as a result of the statement of Eddie Bracken at a recent Dewey rally here that he had been "warned in Hollywood that he would ruin his career if he made a speech for Dewey," and added that "when it comes to making a choice between my career and my patriotism, I would be a traitor to my country if I considered the career."

Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio Pictures president, one of those whose opinion was sought on the campaign activities of Hollywood personalities,

(Continued on page 10)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Meet Me in St. Louis", M-G-M, will be found on page 6; "Something for the Boys", 20th Century Fox, on page 9.

RKO and Managers Break Off Talks

Contract negotiations between RKO and Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistant managers in the 40 RKO theatres in the Metropolitan area, were broken off at a meeting here yesterday.

The break came after RKO made

(Continued on page 10)

Personal Mention

HARRY J. MICHALSON, RKO short subject sales manager, and FREDERIC ULLMAN, president of RKO Pathe, left yesterday for a tour of key cities.

•

ERNEST FREEMAN and MRS. FREEMAN recently became the parents of a daughter, SUSAN LOUISE. FREEMAN is manager of the Towne Theatre, Allentown, Pa.

•

JACK ZIEGLER, who has been project manager for a Kansas City bridge company at Skagway, Alaska, has returned and rejoined Western Theatre Supply Co. at Omaha.

•

J. LESTER STALLMAN, manager of the Astor, Reading Pa., has been named chairman of the Reading Community Chest theatre campaign committee.

•

ED LEWIS, until recently manager of the Roosevelt Theatre, Seattle, will move, with his family, to Juneau, Alaska, where he will manage the Gross Theatre.

•

HARRY NOVAK, Warners' general manager in Argentina, will leave New York Saturday for his headquarters in Buenos Aires, following a two-months' stay in the United States.

•

MIKE LANDOW, former branch manager for Universal in Philadelphia, is critically ill in the York Hospital, York, Pa.

•

GERTRUDE PRESSMAN, secretary to AL DAVIS at Monogram's Philadelphia exchange, has announced her engagement to PFC LEON DOBKIN.

•

HARRY BLAIR of PRC here will be in New Haven the remainder of this week and will go to Toledo from there.

•

HARRY HUNTER, Paramount's managing director in Australia, has gone to the Coast and then will return to Sydney, his headquarters, from there.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, assistant exploitation manager of 20th Century-Fox, returned yesterday to New York from Pittsburgh and Washington.

•

GUS SCHAEFER, RKO Northeastern district manager, and MAX WESTEBBE, Albany branch manager, are in New York.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner executive, left New York last night for Boston.

•

BERT SANFORD, of Altec, returned to New York yesterday from California.

•

GEORGE DEMBOW of National Screen Service will leave Hollywood Friday for New York.

•

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, will leave for New York from Hollywood Saturday.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Oct. 31

IF the plan still has the breath of life in it, the architecture must now be changed.

Studio heads are busy men. Some are so busy they have little time to attend meetings of the Producers' Association. Others are so engaged in these days of more and more expensive negatives that administration of the association reaches beyond limitations of their working days. In quick roundup, this is why there has been contemplated the advisability of employing an outside man.

Favorably viewed at one long juncture was Dr. Clarence Dykstra, one-time municipal water and power commissioner of Los Angeles, city manager of Cincinnati, national selective service director, chairman of the National Defense Mediation Board. Now Dr. Dykstra has resigned as president of the University of Wisconsin to accept the post of provost of the University of California. That places him effectively beyond the pale of the unfilled job.

■ ■

The hotel situation here has been tight for months, as the flow of visitors from all points of the compass realizes full well; also those in residence who try to locate space for them. From time to time studios have sought to circumvent this by tying up suites at the limited number of Grade A hotels.

It has not been too successful. There is a five-day rule playing obstacle. The rule allows occupancy without interruption from Monday through Friday, then vacating premises over weekends and resuming on Monday. Anyone who has been through this attests to its lack of comfort and convenience.

The situation has been solved by Paramount now. The studio has leased a house on Crescent Drive immediately beyond the Beverly Hills Hotel bungalow occupied by Frank Freeman. Paramount Guest House is its name. Arthur Mayer stopped there Friday en route to Honolulu, via San Francisco.

Sam Dembow arrived Sunday. But he went to the Ambassador.

■ ■

Wednesday, November 1, is a date long ringed on the calendar. In Inglewood, ten miles to the south, Hollywood Park which no one here has to be told is a race track opens a 34-day meet. On December 30, Santa Anita, to the east beyond Pasadena, gets going and continues on a five-day-a-week routine for 55 days, which takes care of matters until March 13.

Anyone who can get away, and those who can get away with it, will be on deck. If lots of business can be transacted in the patio at Lucey's, lots of business can be transacted in the clubhouse at Inglewood.

On the opening day's card at Hollywood Park, coincidentally, is a horse called "High Resolve." Symbolism?

■ ■

Smiles suffuse the Republic lot. Reason: The praise-sweep accorded "Brazil" by the trade press. Topper to date, however, is designed to be "Earl Carroll's Vanities," budgeted by the production department at $1,500,000 and distinctly not a figure whipped up by publicity impresarios.

This reminds once more that when Herb Yates declared, as he has several times, Republic had full intention of moving into the dreadnaught division with its lead attractions, he was not kidding.

No one kids with $1,500,000.

■ ■

Capt. Ray Wild, Air Forces ace, was one of those who addressed the well-stocked kickoff rally for the Sixth War Loan Drive here. He told this story about a Chinese proverb:

"When a parent kisses a baby on the cheek, the child becomes a writer. A kiss on the forehead presages an orator of renown, and one on the lips means a citizen of future prominence.

"I don't know where your mother kissed you"—turning to Harry Brandt — "but you've turned out to be a wonderful chairman."

■ ■

The situation with Margaret O'Brien—incidentally, she practically wraps up "Meet Me in St. Louis," reviewed today—was tense. The regulations on salary freezes blocked M-G-M from putting through an increase reported at 15 per cent. The moppet was heading for another studio, but riding to an amicable finish is the deal whereby royalties on O'Brien dresses, dolls, toys, caps, coats, etc., will go her way. Go her way to the tune of about $100,000 a year.

Chungking Premiere Is Set for 'Tokyo'

Chungking, China, and New York will have a simultaneous world premiere of M-G-M's "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo." The premiere will be held Nov. 15, and in China the invited guests will include Chiang Kai-shek, and all Allied military leaders in the area.

The initial New York presentation will be at the Capitol Theatre, with free seats to purchasers of 6th War Loan Bonds.

Honor Balaban At Cinema Lodge Meet

Film industry leaders attended the meeting of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith at the Hotel Piccadilly here last night to honor Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, for his contributions to human welfare and the traditional idea of American freedom. Alfred W. Schwalberg, honorary president of Cinema, presented Balaban with a scroll.

Dr. William Agar, executive vice-president of Freedom House, was the principal speaker at the meeting and the U. S. Army's Industrial Services Division's film, "Weapons of War," was shown. Albert A. Senft, Cinema president, presided at the meeting, stressing Cinema's present campaign to double its membership in the film and allied industries.

Peak Grosses Off 10%: Heineman

While the top pictures are continuing to do big business, there has been a drop of 15-20 per cent from previous peak grosses for the average run of product, William Heineman, general sales manager for Samuel Goldwyn, who has just returned from a seven-week trip through the Midwest and Pacific Coast, reported yesterday.

Heineman reported that patrons were showing a tendency to shop for quality, with comedy and color rating the greatest drawing power.

Skouras to Assist V.N.S. Fund Drive

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, has accepted the chairmanship of the motion picture division of the 1944 campaign for funds for the Visiting Nurse Service of New York.

Formerly known as the Henry Street Visiting Nurse Service, the organization provides nursing care in Manhattan, the Bronx and Queens. The 1944 fund drive began last week.

Fete Elizabeth Wilson

Liberty Magazine will give a cocktail party at the Sherry-Netherlands Hotel here on Friday in honor of Elizabeth Wilson, Hollywood representative of that publication and *Screenland, Silver Screen* and *Movie How.*

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Federation's Fund Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

is serving as co-chairman with Major Albert Warner.

Eugene Picker of Loew's was appointed campaign manager of the industry's 1944 Federation drive and Harold Rodner of Warners will be associate campaign manager.

Among those appointed to spearhead the drive for Federation's 116 charitable institutions in the film companies, independent theatres and other groups in the amusement industries were the following: Columbia, Abe Schneider, Max Seligman; Loew's, Inc., Leopold Friedman, Irving Greenfield; Paramount, Arthur Israel, Jr.; RKO, William Zimmerman, Milton Maier; Republic, Ralph Poucher; Warner Bros., Samuel Schneider, Max Blackman; 20th Century-Fox, Joseph M. Moskowitz, Murray Silverstone; United Artists, Edward M. Schnitzer, Samuel Cohen; Universal, Joseph H. Seidelman, Adolph Schimel; National Screen Service, Herman Robbins, George Dembow, Jr.; film exchanges, Charles Boasberg; artists and bandleaders representatives, Nat Lefkowitz, Robert M. Weitman; independent theatres, Leo Brecher, Edward N. Rugoff; legitimate theatres, Marcus Heiman, Emil Friedlander. Representatives for other industry groups are being designated. Marchy Schwartz of Federation will act as liaison with the industry.

Seated on the dais at yesterday's meeting besides Bernstein and Medalie were Barney Balaban, Major Albert Warner, Harry Cohn, Herman Robbins and David Weinstock.

600 Theatres Here To Aid NYWF Drive

(Continued from page 1)

Century circuit will head the drive for contributions from individuals in the industry.

Details of the campaign are now being worked out and will include a trailer to be shown in the theatres participating in the drive. J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of directors of Universal, is heading the motion picture section of the commerce and industry division of the Fund's unified appeal for 31 member agencies. The division's quota of $12,130,000 is a 10 per cent increase over last year in the city-wide campaign to raise $17,200,000. Richard W. Lawrence, president of Bankers Commercial Corp., is chairman of this year's drive.

Decision This Week In Studio Dispute

(Continued from page 1)

pedited was given telephonically today in response to a call from Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, who pointed out that delay might precipitate a second walkout.

Under the established procedure the case will be referred back to Hollywood for hearings if Washington is unable to reach a decision. A Set Decorators' spokesman said a second walkout would be maintained, if undertaken, until the Government settled the dispute by taking over the industry.

Walker Dedicates Stamp

Photo by Staff Photographer

From left to right, above, are: New York Postmaster Albert Goldman; George Schaefer, chairman of the War Activities Committee; Will H. Hays and Postmaster General Frank C. Walker.

Anniversary Stamp Is Placed on Sale

(Continued from page 1)

vision coordinator. A broadcast devoted to the issuance was carried over the Blue Network. Postmistress Briggs, Charles Koerner of RKO, Cecil B. DeMille, Mary Pickford and Dianh Shore participated.

In New York, Postmaster General Frank C. Walker made the first-day sale to George J. Schaefer, chairman of the WAC, in the main postoffice. Some 3,000 persons witnessed the ceremony, which was conducted before newsreel cameramen and a list of dignitaries including Albert Goldman, Postmaster of New York; Will H. Hays, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, and Lucy Monroe, who sang the national anthem.

War Effort Praised

In speeches preceding the presentation of the first stamp, Postmaster Goldman and Postmaster General Walker declared the film industry's war effort had been the greatest single morale builder among our troops and a credit to the democracy.

In accepting the presentation, Schaefer traced the course of film history from April 14, 1894, and declared that today the film industry has the greatest single influence on our native life, tastes, conduct and on our youth. "It has overcome the barriers of speech, educated the masses, and instantly transports the spectator to any remote part of the globe," Schaefer stated. Hays said that "No story for the screen has ever been so dramatic as the story of the screen itself," and stated that the new issue was "most pertinent," and he accepted with thanks and pride on behalf of the industry.

Clearance Appeal Denied by Board

The American Arbitration Association appeal board has denied the request of the Ritz theatre, Watervliet, Mich., in appealing the award of John Lovett, arbitrator in the Detroit tribunal, that it be granted open booking with the Heart, Hartford, and the Loma, Coloma, the AAA reported here yesterday.

Sol Winokur, former operator of the Ritz, filed the original clearance complaint against Loew's, RKO, Warners and Paramount. Michael Spadafore, who has since become owner of the Ritz, has agreed to be bound by the board's decision.

Complainant also sought prompt deliveries of films without unnecessary delay, which the board agreed should be rectified. The board stated that it has no authority to direct open booking, and also denied relief "against separate clearance in favor of each of two houses which enjoy identical prior runs," as charged by the complainant, because of the element of competition.

Sell Maxwell Share Of ABP Circuit

(Continued from page 1)

expected rebuff to J. Arthur Rank, who must visualize with uneasiness his greatest circuit rival changing hands and becoming a vigorous competitor to his Odeon and Gaumont British circuits, both previously unchallenged in the field.

Associated British operates approximately 300 theatres.

Film Lack Holds Up 20th-Fox Reissues

Twentieth Century-Fox, which reissued four features last season, has not set any reissues for 1944-45 because of the shortage of raw stock for new prints, W. J. Kupper, general sales manager, reports. The four last season were: "In Old Chicago," "The Rains Came," "Under Two Flags" and "Banjo on My Knee."

Kupper said the raw stock situation would generally not affect new product for most companies because most are making fewer pictures.

In Kupper's opinion, the excessive running time of features, which has been the subject of complaints by many exhibitors, must be reduced. He pointed out that 20th-Fox, with the exception of "Wilson" and perhaps one or two others, is producing pictures of moderate length.

Admitting that there were some 'bottlenecks' as far as product is concerned, Kupper said that extended runs are really caused by the abundance of good product. Although subsequent runs have a problem of securing product, the situation eases itself eventually, Kupper said, pointing out that some pictures never see first-run houses but go directly to subsequents.

Twentieth-Fox is now averaging 14,000 accounts on its pictures, Kupper said.

Army Studies Its Studio Holdings

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—Army officials are now studying their motion picture production set-up in Hollywood with a view to determining its future in the various Coast and other studios which it has been using, including the Hal Roach and 20th-Fox Western Ave. plants in Hollywood, but declare they will be unable to announce any final decisions until a more definite determination has been made of the film requirements for the war with Japan.

A spokesman for the War Department explains that this is one of a large number of surveys which are being made of the military program in the light of the European situation. Just what disposition will be made of the studios will depend upon the specific needs of the Army for all-out war in a new sector, the Pacific, under conditions entirely different from those encountered in Europe.

The controls maintained by the Army over Hollywood production involving Army scenes will be continued, it is said.

'U' Denied New Trial In Cummings Case

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31. — District Judge Harry Hollzer today denied Universal's motion for new trial in the case of Robert Cummings versus the studio, based on the star's suspension following his refusal to enact a role assigned to him. The case was decided in the actor's favor a month ago. Universal will appeal to the Circuit Court.

AN M-G-M

TRADE SHOW

NOT TO BE MISSED!

If "The Big Parade" were being trade shown for the first time and you did not attend you would regret having missed a truly important event.

•

We urge every exhibitor to see "THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO" at the first opportunity—the trade shows listed on this page!

•

It will live forever in the hearts of people everywhere. You cannot know its magnitude until you have seen with your own eyes these courageous boys and their sweet wives in a masterpiece of such beauty, humanity and patriotism that you will call it one of the greatest pictures ever made.

"THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO"

ALBANY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1052 Broadway	MON. 11/13	8 P.M.
ATLANTA	20th-Fox Screen Room 197 Walton St., N. W.	MON. 11/13	10:30 A.M.
BOSTON	M-G-M Screen Room 46 Church Street	MON. 11/13	10 A.M. Also: 2:15 P.M.
BUFFALO	20th-Fox Screen Room 290 Franklin Street	MON. 11/13	8 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	20th-Fox Screen Room 308 South Church Street	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
CHICAGO	H. C. Igel's Screen Room 1301 South Wabash Ave.	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
CINCINNATI	RKO Screen Room 16 East Sixth Street	MON. 11/13	2 P.M.
CLEVELAND	20th-Fox Screen Room 2219 Payne Avenue	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
DALLAS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1803 Wood Street	MON. 11/13	2:30 P.M.
DENVER	Paramount Screen Room 2100 Stout Street	MON. 11/13	2 P.M.
DES MOINES	20th-Fox Screen Room 1300 High Street	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
DETROIT	Max Blumenthal's Sc. Rm. 2310 Cass Avenue	MON. 11/13	1:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 326 North Illinois Street	MON. 11/13	9 A.M.
KANSAS CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1720 Wyandotte St.	MON. 11/13	1:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	Ambassador Theatre Ambassador Hotel	MON. 11/13	2:30 P.M.
MEMPHIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 151 Vance Avenue	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Warner Screen Room 212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	MON. 11/13	1 30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1015 Currie Avenue	MON. 11/13	2 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	20th-Fox Screen Room 40 Whiting Street	MON. 11/13	10:30 A.M.
NEW ORLEANS	20th-Fox Screen Room 200 South Liberty	MON. 11/13	1:30 P.M.
NEW YORK NEW JERSEY	M-G-M Screen Room 630 Ninth Avenue	MON. 11/13	10:30 A.M. Also: 2:30 P.M.
OKLA'MA CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 10 North Lee Street	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
OMAHA	20th-Fox Screen Room 1502 Davenport	MON. 11/13	1:30 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	M-G-M Screen Room 1233 Summer Street	THURS. 11/16	11 A.M.
PITTSBURGH	M-G-M Screen Room 1623 Blvd. of Allies	MON. 11/13	2 P.M.
PORTLAND	B. F. Shearer Screen Room 1947 N.W. Kearney Street	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	S'Renco Screen Room 3143 Olive Street	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 216 East First Street, So.	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
S. FRANCISCO	20th-Fox Screen Room 245 Hyde Street	MON. 11/13	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Jewel Box Preview Theatre 2318 Second Avenue	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.
WASHINGTON	20th-Fox Screen Room 932 New Jersey, N.W.	MON. 11/13	1 P.M.

(ON NEXT PAGE: One of the full page ads in the tremendous national campaign) →

"He took off from Shangri-La . . ."

Ted and Ellen had been to a dance the night before—excited and gay, as if they knew the parting would be soon.

And they had whispered the refrain of a song to each other . . . "I love you, I love you, I love you."

Then, next morning, the word came that he was to take off—with the others—on the most hazardous mission of the war.

One hundred and thirty-one days after December 7, 1941, a handful of young men who had never dreamed of glory struck the first blow at Japan.

Out of Captain Ted W. Lawson's true story of that most epochal bombing mission in all history—when Lieutenant Colonel Jimmy Doolittle led his valiant group manning their B-25's from Shangri-La directly to the heart of Japan . . . out of the glorious adventure of these men who flew into the unknown—M-G-M has made a truly great motion picture.

It is a drama of stirring courage and deep, abiding devotion—a picture you will never forget.

Captain Ted W. Lawson, author of "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo", was pilot of "The Ruptured Duck"—one of the bombers that took off from the "Hornet" at Shangri-La and blasted Tokyo.

A MERVYN LeROY PRODUCTION with

VAN JOHNSON • ROBERT WALKER

PHYLLIS THAXTER • TIM MURDOCK

SCOTT McKAY • GORDON McDONALD

DON DeFORE • ROBERT MITCHUM

JOHN R. REILLY • HORACE McNALLY and

SPENCER TRACY

as LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES H. DOOLITTLE

Screen Play by Dalton Trumbo

Based on the Book and Collier's Story by

Captain Ted W. Lawson and Robert Considine

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

Directed by MERVYN LeROY • Produced by SAM ZIMBALIST

'Meet Again' In $27,500 Phila. Week

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 31.—Business continued fair in mid-city houses with holdovers and second runs predominating. "Till We Meet Again" at the Fox, major film opening of the week, points to $27,500. The other opening, "Abroad With Two Yanks," at the Aldine, indicates $15,900, with an additional $3,000 already taken in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending November 1-3:

"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,900. (Average: $14,600).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $4,000).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $18,000).
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO) 6 days
"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (40c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville including Sonny Dunham's band, Carolyn Grey, Tommy Randall, Nicholas Brothers and Joey Rardin. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $27,600).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $20,500).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,600).
"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,800).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $23,200. Average: $22,500).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $20,000).
"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,400).

'SYWA' Draws Big $52,000 in Denver

DENVER, Oct. 31.—The S.R.O. signs at the Denver and Esquire theatres here were taken out of storage and put into use over the weekend while "Since You Went Away" played out the week here. The gross at the Denver was $37,500, while the Esquire showed a neat $14,625 for the week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30-Nov. 2:

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th Fox)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $9,800. (Average, $5,600).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 3d week. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $9,000).
"Since You Went Away" (U. A.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $37,500. (Average, $15,000).
"Since You Went Away" (U. A.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $14,625. (Average, $4,500).
"Dangerous Journey" (20th Fox)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $17,205. (Average, $9,300).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (W.B.)
RIALTO — (900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $9,250. (Average, $5,000).

Tribute to Willkie

Freedom House will pay tribute to the late Wendell L. Willkie, former chairman of the board of 20th Century-Fox, at a memorial meeting on Saturday, at *New York Times* Hall.

Review

"Meet Me in St. Louis"

(M-G-M)

Hollywood, October 31.

HOUR-GLASS figures and hair ribbons, horse and buggy, sideburns and watch chains parade with all the nostalgic charm of another generation's nosegay in the daguerrotype-manner in "Meet Me in St. Louis." Producer Arthur Freed and director Vincente Minnelli have contrived a charming attraction, magnificently mounted and produced. Like good showmen, they also remembered to keep it commercial.

The title, of course, plants the locale. The period of 1903-4. The big event is the St. Louis-Louisiana Purchase Exposition with its official song from which springs the attraction's monicker. It was in the days when girls who were kissed first had to be engaged, when father was the unchallenged master of the household, when "Under the Bamboo Tree" was popular and when a boy in New York telephoned a girl in St. Louis the urgency was expected to indicate a proposal.

Against this kind of picturesque backdrop is the Smith family. Leon Ames is the lawyer-father, Mary Astor is the wife, Lucille Bremer is the oldest daughter, Judy Garland is next in line, Joan Carroll is third and Margaret O'Brien fourth. Henry H. Daniel, Jr., is the son; Marjorie Main, the family retainer-maid, Harry Davenport, the grandfather of understanding and quiet humor. Romantic foil for Miss Bremer is Robert Sully and for Miss Garland, Tom Drake.

Dredging from a book by Sally Benson, writers Irving Brecher and Fred F. Finklehoffe have put together very little resembling story but a pleasant compilation of incidents. The girls let their heartstrings out, with final success; the Little O'Brien gets herself and her family in constant trouble and, in one way and another and through one device and another, the whole family plays out its life with father and with each other.

The only dark spot to harry a leisurely and comfortable pastoral enters when father accepts a post in New York. Family rebellion breaks out, then subsides on the theory father—and not mother, this time—knows best. Finally, father realizes St. Louis is home to family and to him and chucks the offer. They remain in St. Louis for happy, romantic fadeouts and the inaugural of the fair.

"MEET Me in St. Louis," it is easy to see, might have been one of those things. There is so much reliance upon incident and upon proper mood, leading into excellence of performance, that the outcome could have been considerably less fortunate in less capable and careful hands. But these results are heart-warming in their fragrance and wholesome in their sweep. There is too much honey and sunshine, perhaps. Story content could have been far stronger and so, too, could have marquee names among the men. Yet the sugar is coated evenly, if somewhat thickly, and not hard to take.

Not a musical, but a period piece, the attraction has four song numbers. Accelerating in popularity, of course, is "The Trolley Song" sung in best Garland by Judy. She also does "The Boy Next Door" and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" which are sentimental, but not sloppy; here, too, she garlands them with her best. In point of performance, it is probably inevitable that little Margaret O'Brien packages the picture neatly under her own label. She is practically resistant-proof, but, anyway, this reviewer didn't even try. He's a goner on Miss Garland, too, but that's a professional romance hardly new.

The credit roster would lack completion without a bouquet for Edwin B. Willis and Paul Huldschinsky for their sets, Irene for her costuming and George Folsey for his Technicolor camerawork.

Running time, 110 minutes. No release date set. G.*

RED KANN.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Report 90 Per Cent Sellout for 'Stars'

About 90 per cent of available tickets for the 11th annual "Night of Stars," to be held Tuesday, Nov. 14, at Madison Square Garden, have been sold, it was reported yesterday by Sylvan Gotshal, chairman.

A number of film stars, as well as stage and radio personalities will appear at the affair, proceeds of which will be turned over to the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine. Robert Weitman, manager of the Paramount Theatre here, is chairman of the producing committee.

Kelley Replaces Meeker

DALLAS, Oct. 31.—Robert Kelley of the Interstate Circuit home office here, has succeeded Charles R. Meeker, Jr., as publicity director of the IC's Dallas theatres, it has been announced by Frank O. Starz, circuit advertising manager.

Plans Two Theatres For Chattanooga

CHATTANOOGA, Oct. 31.—Two new theatre-recreation centers to cost $400,000 are planned for Chattanooga, Abe Borisky, secretary-treasurer of Independent Theatres, Inc., announced. Each of the new houses will seat 1,000.

In addition, Independent Theatres, which operates seven houses here, plans a new theatre in Knoxville and remodeling and enlarging of its Park Theatre here at a cost of $100,000.

Carol Weill to IT & T

Carol Weill, former director of advertising and publicity for Film Classics, has joined George A. Hirliman at International Theatrical and Television Corp. Miss Weill's entire staff, including Jean Guarini, her assistant, and her art, exploitation and advertising copy departments, have moved with her to I. T. and T.

'Village,' 'SYWA' Tops in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Oct. 31.—"Greenwich Village" headed the local parade with an estimated $10,500 at the Allen Theatre. Businesss was off right down the line, although "Since You Went Away" held strong in its fourth week, heading for a $12,000 take at Loew's Stillman following a three-week run at the State.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 1:

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
ALLEN — (3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,500).
"Impatient Years" (Col.)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $22,100).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (Warner)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $3,200).
"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,000).
"San Diego I Love You" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Wally Brown, Alan Carney, Hal McIntyre Band. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,400).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,000).
"Since You Went Away" (U.A.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $10,000).

'Skeffington' Gets Toronto Welcome

TORONTO, Oct. 31.—"Mr. Skeffington" succeeded to the screen of Shea's Theatre here after the eight-weeks run of "Going My Way" to set the boxoffice pace, pointing to $15,300, while "Since You Went Away" continued a second week at Loew's Theatre for an expected above-par $12,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 2:

"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $4,000).
"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,300. (Average, $12,800)
"Since You Went Away" (U.A.)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,200. (Average, $11,200).
"Mr. Skeffington" (W.B.)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average, $12,800).
"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average, $4,400).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average, $9,800).

Ontario Exhibitors Re-Elect Officers

TORONTO, Oct. 31.—At a meeting of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, N. A. Taylor of 20th Century Theatres, an affiliate of Famous Players Canadian Corp., was elected president for a second term and Haskell M. Masters, general manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada, was named vice-president.

J. Garbarino, proprietor of the Odeon Theatre, Toronto, was re-elected treasurer and Mayor Floyd Rumford of Forest, Ont., was named honorary secretary, with S. B. Taube re-appointed to the position of executive-secretary. William Summerville, Jr., of Bloom & Fine Theatres, a subsidiary of Famous Players, was named chairman of the membership and organization committee, and Garbarino is chairman of the budget and assessment committee.

IT'S AWFULLY TOUGH TO GET A PULLMAN RESERVATION THESE DAYS...

...BUT HERE'S A SLEEPER YOU CAN CLIMB ABOARD AND REALLY RIDE!

FIRST ROUSING HIT TO TELL THE HILARIOUS STORIES OF THOSE MILLIONS OF LOVE-HUNGRY GALS!

WEEK END MANEUVERS

PULLMAN HONEYMOONS

ROOM HUNTERS

LONG-DISTANCE LOVE

CIVILIAN CLAIM JUMPERS

ROMANCE ON THE RUN

MONOGRAM PICTURES presents

☆☆ ARMY WIVES ☆☆

ELYSE KNOX · MARJORIE RAMBEAU · RICK VALLIN
DOROTHEA KENT · HARDIE ALBRIGHT

Produced by LINDSLEY PARSONS Directed by PHIL ROSEN Original Screen Play by B. HARRISON ORKOW Based on an Idea by SGT. JOEL LEVY, JR.

BOOK IT NOW AT MONOGRAM . . . AND PLAY IT HOT!

P. S. *And "G. I. HONEYMOON" is coming soon!*

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, October 31.

CLARK GABLE'S first appearance since entering inactive status in the Army Air Force will be as master-of-ceremonies on an Armed Forces Radio Service show featuring the "Winged Victory" chorus and orchestra. It has not yet been indicated by M-G-M, Gable's home studio, what his first picture will be, nor when it will go into production.

Gustav Machaty, Czechoslovakian director who made "Ecstasy," has announced the formation of his own independent producing company under the firm name of Gong Productions, Inc. Machaty's first will be "Jealousy," based on an original by Dalton Trumbo. Karen Morley, Nils Asther and Hugo Haas have been signed for three of the top roles.

Donald Duck will have three leading women in Walt Disney's new feature, "The Three Caballeros." They are Aurora Miranda, Dora Luz and Carmen Molina . . . William Demarest has been added to the cast of "Duffy's Tavern," now shooting at Paramount . . . Edward Dmytryk has been assigned to direct "The Invisible Army," which Robert Fellows will produce for RKO Radio . . . M-G-M has given Frances Gifford a new contract and assigned her a role in "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes."

Alfred Hitchcock will direct "Notorious," which will be Ingrid Bergman's next starring vehicle for David O. Selznick. . . . Clifford Odets has been assigned to do the screenplay of RKO's "Sister Carrie," based on the novel by Theodore Dreiser.

•

M-G-M is preparing a story of fighting men's readjustments to civilian life in a postwar world, titled "New Horizons." Sam Marx will produce. . . . Val Lewton's first two productions under the new set-up recently announced for him by RKO will be "Father Malachy's Miracle" and "None So Blind." . . . Emmet Lynn has been signed by Philip N. Krasne for the next "Cisco Kid" Western at Monogram.

•

Frank MacDonald has been signed to direct "Moonlight and Roses" for Republic. . . . Hunt Stromberg has given Betty Newling a long-term contract and assigned her one of the leading feminine roles in "Dishonored Lady." . . . Lesley Selander will direct Republic's production of "Three's a Crowd," a mystery-melodrama.

•

Allyn Joslyn will have one of the principal roles in "A Bell for Adano" at 20th Century-Fox . . . Universal has renewed Arthur Lubin's directorial contract . . . Richard Whorf will direct "The Hidden Eye" for M-G-M. Robert Sisk is the producer.

Capt. Burgess Meredith, recently placed on inactive duty status by the War Department, has been signed by Lester Cowan for the role of Ernie Pyle in "G. I. Joe."

•

Fred MacMurray's annual outside picture under the deal with 20th Century-Fox will be made on the 20th-Fox lot and distributed by the company, Joseph M. Schenck told MOTION PICTURE DAILY today.

Review

"Something for the Boys"

(20th Century-Fox)

THE trend toward giving military material a once-over lightly has been well served by the long-run Broadway musical from which this film was adapted. In a spirit of gay make-believe for those fed up with the horrors of the fighting fronts, it dwells nostalgically on the time when GI wives first invaded locales like Masonville, Ga., and our troops first divided into "Reds" and "Blues" to play war games.

The three Hart cousins, rounded up by a "Missing Heirs" broadcast to take over decrepit Magnolia Manor and turn it (with the aid of a little money and work from the soldiers) into a set designer's delight, are three princely entertainers in top form. There's Vivian Blaine, Brooklyn hoofer who heads the movement to flood the plantation with dance routines; Phil Silvers, sidewalk pitch artist who introduces the roulette table that gets the place declared "off limits," and Carmen Miranda, defense worker, whose wiles with Col. Clarence Kolb finally end this restriction and pave the way for a big home-coming party. Among the men in uniform, Michael O'Shea is present to lead a camp orchestra in the original Cole Porter tunes and some pleasant new ones by Frank McHugh and Harold Adamson, while Perry Como, bathed in Georgia moonlight, gives voice to the more romantic lyrics.

Apparently the beautiful wives who put up at the manor are all chorus girls, and the Kay Nelson-Yvonne Wood costumes they've brought along are something especially for the tired business boys. Sgt. O'Shea, for plot purposes, is unmarried, but after he and Miss Blaine have feelingly sung "Wouldn't It Be Nice?" a society fiancee menace arrives in the person of Sheila Ryan. For double trouble, the Sergeant is captured on the premises during maneuvers by Lt. Glenn Langan and confined to the living room. However, Silvers and Miss Miranda save the day: she with an occupational disease (out of the *Readers' Digest*) which has turned her into a human sending and receiving set, and he by fascinating the headquarters staff with comedy antics until the "enemy" can close in.

The screen play, rambling but never static, was written by Robert Ellis, Helen Logan and Frank Gabrielson from the stage show by Herbert and Dorothy Fields. Irving Starr's production is munificent, and Lewis Seiler's direction keeps the cast giving at high pitch. Emil Newman and Charles Henderson directed the music and Nick Castle staged the dances. Technicolor photography, supervised by Natalie Kalmus, lends splendor to it all. Indeed, the featured song, "I'm in the Middle of Nowhere," seems quite an exaggeration.

Running time, 87 minutes. "G"*. Release in November.

TOM LOY

"G" denotes general classification.

Truck Tire Situation Very Bad, OPA Says

CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—John Mann, chief of the tire rationing branch of the OPA, told the National Association of Independent Tire Dealers, in convention here, that "the country is now in its most critical period of rationing large truck tires, and no relaxation is to be expected until Army demands ease."

Robert A. Dean, NAITD president, revealed, following a recent survey in Washington, that "A" card holders cannot expect new tires before April, 1945, with the backlog of unfilled applications from "B" and "C" card holders now at 800,000.

Irving Ackerman A Grover Partner

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 31.—Oliver J. Grover and Irving C. Ackerman, the latter of the firm of Ackerman and Harris which dissolved in 1930, have opened the new Nob Hill Theatre in the Fairmont Hotel. Grover was formerly president of one of the biggest theatre circuits in Austria, controlling 92 houses. Later he produced films in Paris.

Ackerman and Grover now also run the Downtown Theatre (formerly the Casino) and a house in Oakland. The Nob Hill is ready for television.

New Cumberland House

WINCHESTER, Tenn., Oct. 31.—Construction of a 1,000-seat theatre at the public square has been announced by Cumberland Amusement Co.

ODT Asks Continued Ban on Conventions

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—The Office of Defense Transportation has called upon trade associations and business organizations of the motion picture and other industries to continue voluntary curtailments of conventions and meetings through the first quarter of 1945, warning that wartime traffic is expected to be at its peak during that period.

Emphasizing the need for the continued suspension of meetings, transportation director J. M. Johnson called upon all hotel operators to discourage conventions.

Legion Classifies Twelve New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: A-1, "Brazil," Republic; "Cyclone Prairie Rangers," Columbia; "Dead or Alive," "Wild Horse Phantom," PRC, and "Reckless Age," Universal. Class A-2, "The Conspirators," Warners; "Dark Waters," United Artists; "Girl Rush," RKO; "I Accuse My Parents," PRC; "Maria Candelaria," Clasa Films; "The Mark of the Whistler," Columbia, and "One Body Too Many," Paramount.

B. and H. Names Booth

CHICAGO, Oct. 31. — J. Harold Booth has been named vice-president in charge of merchandising for Bell and Howell here.

Short Subject Review

"Uncle Sam, Mariner?"

(MOT-20th-Fox)

March of Time's newest release is an effective plea for a permanent and ever-expanding merchant fleet for the U. S. in the postwar period. The case for the maritime service is presented in highly convincing fashion by Admiral Emory S. Land, Henry Kaiser and National Maritime Union president Joseph Curran.

Their collective reasons: to keep the peace, to carry American goods and passengers on American ships, and to keep employed the thousands of men who depend upon the sea for a livelihood.

Stressing America's once proud tradition of the sea, the subject shows the decline of the merchant fleet after World War I, and its gradual rebuilding. Now with a powerful fleet which has played a tremendous part in the present war, and which has proved itself to the American people, MOT asks: Will the people forget again? "Uncle Sam, Mariner?" is a timely subject, well handled from all angles, and apparently destined to provoke public interest in the issue of the merchant fleet. Running time, 16 mins.

H.McN.

Studios Limit Takes To Two Per Scene

All Hollywood studios are cooperating on raw stock conservation in production by now limiting takes to only two per scene, Robert Sterling, production aide to Hunt Stromberg, has disclosed here. Sterling came here from Hollywood with a print of "Guest in the House"; United Artists will release.

The next two Stromberg production, which will start shooting by January at General Service Studios, Hollywood, are "Young Widow" and "Dishonored Lady," from the stage play. Following these two, Stromberg will make a picture built around the life of Arnold Ruben, noted restaurateur, Sterling said.

This year makes the 25th that Stromberg has been in the industry, Sterling disclosed. He will return to Hollywood in about two or three weeks.

WAC Will Release Robot Bomb Film

The War Activities Committee will release the British Ministry of Information short, "V-1," dealing with the robot bomb blitz on England on or about Nov. 16.

Some 500,000 feet of raw stock to make the necessary 687 prints of the approximately 700 foot film will come from raw stock allocations to the British Information Services, here without drawing upon WAC allocations, it has been learned.

MANAGER at LIBERTY

Competent—experienced in all types of exhibition including stage presentation. A1 record in metropolitan, deluxe or neighborhood theatres, or smaller town operation. Top offer or participation deal.

BOX 236, MOTION PICTURE DAILY

U. S. to Move On Decree This Month

(Continued from page 1)

about Nov. 10, and not later than Nov. 15.

"We will have several assistants in the New York case," Berge said, "but Wright is the only one who has seen it straight through from the beginning and there would be a loss of time if we put another man on it who has not had that experience."

Wright will be in charge of the New York trial, backed by an adequate staff of qualified assistants, it was stated.

It was indicated at the Department that no expectation is entertained that the film companies now will seek a compromise, and plans are being made to push the case vigorously. The Government's motion for revision of the decree was filed Aug. 7, two months before the court was scheduled to meet for its Fall term, and nothing has since been done by the Department because of the fact that the Schine case came up just about the time it would otherwise have asked for a hearing in New York, although it was fully prepared to go before Judge Goddard, it was said.

It is expected that the motion for a hearing will be filed at the conclusion of the Schine case, and then Judge Goddard will set a date for the hearing, according to Department officials.

Arthur Injunction Postponed to Dec. 5

The injunction suit filed by Harry Arthur to enable his intervention in the New York anti-trust case, originally set for hearing on Friday, was postponed yesterday to Dec. 5 in the Federal District court here.

Postponement was granted at the request of Robert L. Wright, assistant U. S. Attorney General, and agreed to by Russell Hardy, attorney for Arthur, and John Caskey, representing the major distributors.

H. R. Robb, Circuit Head, Dead at 55

(Continued from page 1)

1905 at Geary, Okla. His partnership with Ed H. Rowley was formed in 1916. The circuit owns and operates 110 theatres in Texas, additional theatres in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas and California, and has a partnership interest in several theatres with other circuits. He was a member of the Theatre Owners Protective Association of Texas.

Henrietta Crosman, Actress, Dies at 83

Henrietta Crosman, 83, one of Broadway's leading actresses in the first two decades of the century and a 20th Century-Fox contrct player from 1932 to 1936, died yesterday in her home at Pelham Manor after an illness of a year. A son, Maurice Campbell, Jr., survives.

Before going to the West Coast, Miss Crossman played a role in the New York-produced picture, "The Royal Family of Broadway."

Set Plans for New York Sixth War Loan Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

office executives and industry leaders.

The occasion will serve a dual purpose, that of welcoming back the members of the industry's national committee currently touring the country to mobilize the industry and of launching the New York area group's participation in the drive.

Skirball Commended At Cleveland Rally

CLEVELAND, Oct. 31.—Three hundred and fifty exhibitors and distributors attended the Sixth War Loan industry luncheon at the Statler Hotel here today. Charles Raymond, State exhibitor chairman, introduced Harry Brandt, who in turn introduced Jack Kirsch, William Crockett, Nathan Yamins, John Hertz, Jr., Si Fabian, Ned E. Depinet, Lt. Louis R. Langey and Capt. Raymond Wild.

Fabian conveyed congratulations to Cleveland exhibitors in general and to former War Activities Committee exhibitor chairman William N. Skirball in particular for excellent records in previous bond drives. Charles Raymond, state exhibitor chairman, Morrison Orr, distributor chairman, and George W. Erdmann, Cuyahoga County exhibitor chairman, met with the national leaders following the luncheon.

450 At Chicago Meet With Drive Leaders

CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—About 450 film industry representatives from Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana met with representatives of the industry's national committee for participation in the Sixth War Loan Drive at a series of meetings at the Stevens Hotel here today. Co-chairmen Edward Zorn and Edward Silverman presided.

Among those who addressed the meeting were Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago, Jack Kirsch, co-chairman for the Midwest division and Renzlo Sherer of the Chicago office of the U. S. Treasury Dept. Full cooperation in the drive was pledged on behalf of independent and circuit theatres. Hon. Dwight H. Green, Governor of Illinois, and members of the industry's national committee attended.

Emanuel Seeks 'Medal Of Honor' Listings

The nine co-chairmen throughout the country now active on behalf of the industry's Sixth War Loan drive have been requested by Jay Emanuel, national campaign coordinator, to secure verified lists of all industry personnel entitled to receive the special 'Medal of Honor.'

If an exhibitor is not an issuing agent and desires to receive the 'Medal of Honor' he can qualify by guaranteeing to become an agent.

Meanwhile, Harry Brandt, national industry chairman, has requested all state exhibitor chairmen to wire national headquarters in New York each Monday a complete report on the number of new issuing agents secured.

Hollywood Stars in Recorded Bond Appeal

The voices of Humphrey Bogart, Paulette Goddard, Cary Grant, Alan Ladd, Fred MacMurray and Walter Pidgeon will make bond appeals in the lobbies of the nation's theatres for the duration of the Sixth War Loan drive via a recording. The recording, produced by the industry's radio subcommittee under the chairmanship of Martin Lewis, features the appeal "Step up to the bond booth or any theatre attendant now!"

Bulletin Seeking Greater Bond Aid

In an effort to obtain a greater number of U. S. Treasury war bond issuing agents, more bond premieres, a larger number of children's matinees and the widest possible observance of national Free Movie Day Dec. 7, Sixth War Loan national chairman Harry Brandt has forwarded to all exhibitors throughout the country a special bulletin outlining the industry's aims in the drive.

This special two-colored bulletin contains information helpful to all exhibitors and outlines some of the highlights of the national campaign now set in motion to aid exhibitors.

Three WAC Films on Bonds in November

Three of the four "war information" films scheduled by the War Activities Committee for release in November deal with the necessity for continuing bond purchases, tieing-in with the Sixth War Loan. The fourth release is "V-1," a robot-bomb short subject produced in Britain. It will be shown starting Nov. 16.

The bond subjects are all "film bulletins," which will be attached to the five newsreels. They are: Nov. 2, highlighting the 169th anniversary of the Marine Corps; Nov. 9, "A Message from Lt. Tyrone Power"; Nov. 23, "Admiral Nimitz Reports on the Pacific."

RKO and Managers Break Off Talks

(Continued from page 1)

a counter offer of $85 a week for managers and $37.50 for assistant managers. The Guild has demanded $115 a week for managers and $75 for assistants.

After the meeting a Guild spokesman said it considers the contract negotiations broken off and is seeking the intervention of the New York State Board of Mediation, with the idea of having the case certified to the War Labor Board as a dispute. About 400 managers and assistants are involved.

Doob Lauds WAC Publicity Workers

Oscar A. Doob, recently resigned national chairman of the public relations division of the War Activities Committee, commended the industry's publicity men and women in a letter sent yesterday to the 31 exchange area chairmen associated with the public relations division of the WAC.

Doob, who headed the group for two terms after organizing the national WAC publicity set-up, stated that "motion picture publicity people have brought their profession ot a new peak of usefulness and respect by becoming 'war workers.'"

Schine Takes Witness Stand

(Continued from page 1)

things of which Schine is accused of doing is in violation of the Act such as, "building a theatre where there was none before, telling a competitor in advance of plans to build a theatre, buying a theatre and persuading the seller to remain out of competition for a certain period, securing the best pictures, runs and returns, increasing a market for such companies as Republic, Monogram and other distributors and increasing competition of distributors."

Earlier in his oration, McClennen declared that because motion picture product is owned by the distributor, the distributor has the right to sell it to whom he pleases.

'Growth Normal'

Schine was described by his attorney as "diligent, skillful, persevering and possessed of wisdom." "The growth of the Schine circuit has been normal and the Government attacks upon him uncalled for," he said. "Schine entered the industry at almost its beginning, 27 years ago, by acquiring a theatre in Gloversville, where he has lived ever since," said McClennen. "It is a striking commentary on this idea that success has been obtained improperly. Schine entered with an inferior theatre, with others having the best of product. He operated in such an approved way with no strength or financial position of any kind, that soon his theatre was the one that was succeeding. This was no different in character from what has gone on since."

All this was a prelude to Schine's taking the stand in his own defense, which he did when court resumed in the afternoon. He gave a step by step account of his theatre acquisitions from the beginning. Defense continues today.

Opinion Divided on Stars' Campaigning

(Continued from page 1)

said he believes it makes no difference at what political rallies the stars appear; that the whole matter is forgotten soon after election.

William F. Crockett, president of the MPTO of Virginia, on the other hand, said: "It is a a serious mistake for stars, the merchandise of the industry, to support publicly any candidate, because their box office standing is bound to suffer."

Eddie Silverman, president of Essaness Circuit here, is in favor of industry support of various political candidates, if only to indicate to patrons that the film industry's political beliefs vary as much as they do in any other industry.

Chicago has been host to many film celebrities at both Roosevelt and Dewey rallies here. A number of local independent exhibitors have stated that it is poor business for film names, dependent on the public for support, to become political speakers.

Phila. Tax Is Up

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 31.—Amusement tax receipts here for the nine months ended Sept. 30, 1944, totaled $1,084,914, compared with $1,033,327 collected for the same period last year.

Mexico City Houses Reach Saturation

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 31.—With completion of five theatres now under construction, plus the 78 already operating here, this city, with its 1,750,000 inhabitants, will have 83 film houses. This level is believed to be the saturation point by investors, who have viewed the building of film theatres as a good sound investment.

Another factor in the anticipated cessation of building is soaring living costs, with restraint on expansion in several lines of business because of the general expectation of the early end of hostilities in Europe, and a consequent drop in prices of essentials for these activities.

While attendance continues to hold up well, exhibitors fear that there will be a decline before long because of soaring living costs and a drop in the amount of spending money. Others feel, however, that business will continue good, for films are Mexico's outstanding entertainment.

Rovner Buys Phila. Theatre; Site Sold

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 31.—D. Rovner has purchased the Douglass, a neighborhood house here, from Harold and William Margulis, at a cost of $18,500.

Other local changes in ownership include the purchase of an uncompleted house in the Mayfair section of the city. Melvin Fox has bought the project, halted recently by the War Manpower Commission, from David Shapiro.

Overseas Attendance 32,000,000 Monthly

Attendance at Army showings of Hollywood gift-film overseas now averages 32,000,000 per month, it has been reported here by the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service.

Figures indicate that there are more than 3,000 daily showings for over 1,000,000 men and women at war fronts throughout the world.

SOEG Complainants Stand Pat at Hearing

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31.—The complainants in the suit to prevent the Screen Office Employes Guild from spending organization funds for political activity maintained their stand on that issue at the preliminary hearing called here for the purpose of taking depositions today.

Testimony was to reveal the source of the complainants' information, upon which the suit is based. The case will be tried here starting tomorrow.

U. S. Court Dissolves State Trusteeship

ATLANTA, Oct. 31.—The trusteeship for State Theatres, Inc., owned and operated by B. E. Gore, has been dissolved by the Federal Court here, with all creditors paid in full. Gore will continue to operate the circuit, which includes the State, Rialto, Howard and Northtown theatres.

'Gaslight' Dubbed First in Spanish

First Spanish-dubbed release from a major company will be M-G-M's "Gaslight" which will open in Mexico and Argentina about Jan. 1. Premiere, which will serve to launch M-G-M's program for showing its entire 1944-45 schedule in Spanish versions, will be backed by an extensive advertising campaign which includes national advertising in Latin-America, trailers and accessories.

Warners, whose first Spanish-dubbed feature, "My Reputation," with Barbara Stanwyck and George Brent, has been tentatively heralded in Latin-American publications for sometime in January, will not be available until after its release in this country. Domestic release has not been set yet.

64 Midwest Theatres Set 20th-Fox Film

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" will have territorial premieres in the Milwaukee and Cleveland areas with a special advertising campaign, followed by openings in 64 Midwest theatres in November.

The Hippodrome Theatre in Cleveland will launch the Ohio showing on Nov. 2, tieing in with 50 other towns in that area and the Wisconsin Theatre in Milwaukee will lead the list of showings in 12 towns.

Monogram Signs W-K

CHARLOTTE, Oct. 31.—Monogram has closed a deal with the Wilby-Kincey circuit for its 1944-45 product.

Raw Stock Acute; Spain Imports Stop

Shortage of raw stock has become so acute that Spain has stopped importing all pictures because no prints can be made, it has been learned here. American films which are in custom houses in Spain will not be permitted to be taken out.

The virtual ban on imports will be continued indefinitely until the Spanish raw stock problem eases. Spain previously allocated stock from its pool for use by American distributors.

Main sources of raw stock for Spain have been the U. S. and Germany, the latter utilizing stock in Spain for prints of its own pictures only. Germany, in recent months, has almost disappeared from the Spanish market.

U. S. distributors face another obstacle of prohibitive import duties on films, which will take effect in 1945.

Several distributors, cognizant of the difficulties of Spanish operation, are reported to be sending representatives to Spain to explore the situation. Walter Gould, United Artists' foreign sales manager, and Robert L. Graham, Paramount special foreign representative, are expected to go.

Denman to Paramount

ATLANTA, Oct. 31.—Danny Denman, assistant manager of the Fox Theatre here for several years, has taken over the managership of the Paramount succeeding Bill Brady who has been named relief manager and public relations representative for Lucas and Jenkins.

A breath-taking moment in Republic's sensational musical hit, "Brazil," as dashing Tito Guizar leads a troupe of colorful gauchos in the lusty "Vaquero Song" by the distinguished composer of "Brazil," Ary Barroso.

ADVT.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Very soon you will be hearing reports about Universal's extraordinary Technicolor musical romance, "CAN'T HELP SINGING." We want to make this prediction:

"CAN'T HELP SINGING," in our opinion, is not only the finest entertainment Universal has made, but will take its place among the most entertaining pictures of all time.

We are happy that it will be available for Christmas and New Years so that you and your patrons may enjoy it and rejoice in its song and beauty during the Yule season.

Deanna DURBIN

CAN'T HELP SINGING

IN TECHNICOLOR

with ROBERT PAIGE
AKIM TAMIROFF

DAVID BRUCE LEONID KINSKEY RAY COLLINS JUNE VINCENT ANDREW TOMBES THOMAS GOMEZ

Directed by FRANK RYAN *Produced by* FELIX JACKSON *Assoc Producer* FRANK SHAW *Music by* JEROME KERN *Lyrics by* E Y HARBURG

Screen Play by LEWIS R. FOSTER and FRANK RYAN - Story by John Klorer and Leo Townsend
Based on "Girl of The Overland Trail" by Samuel J. and Curtis B. Warshawsky A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 86 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1944 TEN CENTS

Grosses Down But Still Ahead of '43

October Weekly Average Per Theatre, $17,732

Theatre grosses in approximately 150 key city first runs during October continued their slight recession, which started early in September, but continued to compare favorably with gross figures for the corresponding month of 1943, according to reports compiled by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents.

October's highest average gross per theatre was registered at the opening of the month, for the week ending Oct. 6-7, with an average of $17,732 per theatre, with 136 theatres reported on. The following week, with 152 theatres reported on, witnessed a drop to $16,165, average per theatre. The figure was the lowest average reported since last Aug. 11-12. The average per theatre for the week ended

(*Continued on page 4*)

Companies Consider African Exchanges

Several film companies, including Warners, Paramount, RKO, Universal and Columbia, are understood to be considering establishing their own exchanges in South Africa, where their distribution at present is taken care of by Schlesinger Brothers on a franchise basis. M-G-M, United Artists and 20th Century-Fox operate their own exchanges there.

In addition, some companies are also said to be considering building theatres in Johannesburg when restric-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Set New Company on Video and Ad Films

Cine-Television Studios has been formed here to function currently as consultants and production supervisors for filmed television programming and sponsored films, with production of filmed television for national syndication as its eventual goal, it was announced yesterday. Fred H. Fidler, formerly of J. Walter Thompson Agency, is managing partner.

The field of the new organization is the visual-action media combining

(*Continued on page 2*)

Raw Stock Easing Denied by Burrows

Washington, Nov. 1.—Nothin the raw stock situation warrants any suggestion of increased allotments to the industry in the immediate future, it was declared today by Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the War Production Board photographic section, in denying trade reports that he had been discussing an increase with Harold Hopper, M-G-M studio executive.

Hopper lunched with Burrows here today and the two canvassed the situation, which the latter said is unchanged and very tight.

More Subsequents Use High Scales Under New Pattern

CHICAGO, Nov. 1.—The new pattern for subsequent run theatres to play advanced admission-price films on a basis satisfactory to distributor, exhibitor and patron by booking them for a limited run during the first half of the week, described in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Oct. 20 as being adopted by the RKO Metropolitan New York circuit, is extending to circuits elsewhere, many in this area.

The average neighborhood patron, described as being in improved finan-

(*Continued on page 2*)

Crescent Appeal to Be Heard Monday By Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—Argument in the appeals of the Crescent Amusement Co. anti-trust case today was scheduled to open before the Supreme Court Nov. 6, but court attaches said it was questionable whether the presentation would be concluded that day. The case is the second scheduled to be heard after the Court ends its present recess, but a number of opinions are expected to be delivered first, the reading of which may take considerable time.

In the Crescent case, both the Government and the defendants have filed appeals from the decision of the U. S. District Court at Nashville, and the cross-appeals will be heard simultaneously. The Government appeal asks

(*Continued on page 4*)

Franchise Transfer Is Tested in Suit

Question whether a film franchise may be transferred from one theatre to another regardless of the type of house succeeding to it will be tested in New York Supreme court in mid-November. Justice Carroll G. Walter in that court yesterday reserved decision on an application by the Leader Theatre Corp., represented by Emil K. Ellis, which claims that a franchise given the Leader by 20th

(*Continued on page 2*)

Rank Seeks Interchange Of Studio Technicians

A reciprocal agreement between American and British film production craft unions to eliminate present union organization barriers which prevent American technicians from working in British productions and vice versa, is being advocated by J. Arthur Rank, British film leader, Ronald Neame, British photographer, said in New York yesterday. Neame has spent several weeks in Hollywood studying American production methods for Rank, and will leave for London next week.

While in Hollywood, Neame addressed a meeting of American photographers stressing this desire for Anglo-American cooperation in production on Rank's part.

"Rank expects to spend a lot of money in the next two years," Neame

(*Continued on page 4*)

Anniversary Stamp 'Covers' Circulated

First day covers of the industry 50th anniversary stamp, which were placed on sale generally yesterday, are being circulated throughout the industry and elsewhere by executives, philatelists and officials. First-day covers, mailed in New York Tuesday, were addressed to many industry people by Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, Will H. Hays, Leon Bamberger of RKO and others. The covers enclosed letters calling attention to the progress of motion pictures.

Long Runs on B'way Halt Product Flow

Many Top Films Are Caught in Bottleneck

An abundance of good product leading to extended holdovers; a lack, in some instances, of raw stock, and the difficulty of bringing newspaper, magazine and radio advertising in harmony with releases due to the limited advertising facilities available, have forced distributors in many instances to delay release date of some of their top pictures.

The Metropolitan New York first-run situation has again become a bottleneck, especially for those distributors who lack regular first-run outlets, with many top-budget pictures reportedly begging for a Broadway house.

M-G-M's "Mrs. Parkington" is running strongly in its third week at the Music Hall and starts a fourth week tomorrow with no end in sight. The Hall's Christmas picture is

(*Continued on page 4*)

Cross-Examination Of Schine Begun

BUFFALO, Nov. 1. — Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice this afternoon began his cross-examination of J. Myer Schine, head of the theatre circuit which is on trial here, accused of violating provisions of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. At the conclusion of direct examination of Schine by Edward F. McClennen, Schine counsel, Wright questioned the defendant on company statements re-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Look to Bonuses to Spur 'E' Bond Sale

The recent authorization of Christmas bonus payments to employes not to exceed $25, without the necessity of securing the approval of the National War Labor Board, is expected to result in extra sales on 'E' bonds. The WLB made the payment possible through an amendment to its general order, it was revealed yesterday by Tom Baily, film industry consultant to the Treasury Department on the 6th War Loan drive. Baily made

(*Continued on page 2*)

Personal Mention

CAPTAIN MATTHEW J. FOX, Universal vice-president, has been awarded the Bronze Star.

•

JOEL LEVY, JR., formerly with Monogram, has been promoted to Staff Sergeant at the Astoria, L. I., Signal Corps base. His father is JOEL LEVY, SR., out-of-town booker for Loew's.

•

J. G. KEMPTGEN, M-G-M manager in Omaha, and SAAL GOTTLIEB, Pittsburgh manager, will return to their respective cities from New York on Friday.

•

WILLIAM ZOELLMER, M-G-M Atlanta manager, and LOUIS INGRAM, Memphis manager, will arrive in New York Nov. 13.

•

LOUIS J. HALPER, zone manager for Warner Theatres on the West Coast, and LEO MILLER, film buyer and booker, are in New York.

•

VLADIMIR VETLUGUIN, M-G-M assistant to LOUIS B. MAYER on story purchases, will leave New York for the Coast tomorrow.

•

CLAYTON LYNCH, M-G-M Los Angeles manager, and FRANK HENSLER, M-G-M Kansas City manager, will arrive in New York on Monday.

•

MARK SILVER, United Artists' branch manager in Washington, is in New York.

•

M. J. KALLET, president of the Kallet circuit, will arrive in New York Nov. 11 from Albany.

•

M. S. SCHULTER, president of PRC Pictures of St. Louis, will return today after two weeks in New York.

Franchise Transfer Is Tested in Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

Century-Fox, when the Leader was a Randforce house, has illegally been transferred to another theatre in the Randforce chain, after sale of the Leader to the plaintiff, Leopold Storch.

The court ordered briefs to be submitted today and indicated that a trial by Nov. 15 is likely. Plaintiff applied for a temporary injunction. The complaint states that the Leader, a Randforce house until July 23, was receiving "A" product. When plaintiff took over the house on that date, it was alleged he spent over $20,000 in improvements and then found that 20th-Fox product had been transferred to a smaller house in the Randforce chain. Plaintiff alleges through affidavits that 20th-Fox representatives declared that they preferred to do business with a circuit. Damages and an injunction are being sought against Randforce and 20th-Fox under the General Business Law of New York State.

Current Films Not Suitable for Video

Current Hollywood films do not make good television subjects since they are destined for large screens and embody too many long shots, Edward Sobol, NBC television production director, told members of the Television Press Club of New York at a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Sheraton yesterday.

Sobol stressed the fact that television programs today are essentially too static since they are in the hands of the radio broadcasting industry, accustomed to producing radio programs.

John Southwell, in charge of television production for Young and Rubicam, was another speaker at the meeting, viewing video programming from the advertisers' point of view. He pointed out that television might encounter the same pitfalls as did silent and sound motion pictures in the beginning in assuming that the novelty of the presentation was sufficient. He stressed the fact that the showmanship factor which applies to other entertainment media also applies to television.

Set New Company on Video and Ad Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

the four dimensions of selling and entertainment; sight, sound, action and color, for rendering comprehensive services on the sponsored motion picture and filmed television fronts, it was stated.

An autonomous distribution division, known as the Motion Picture Networks, currently offers "planned distribution of sponsored motion pictures of any length" by virtue of its status as special sales representative of "Minute Movies," via General Screen Advertising, Chicago, and Modern Talking Picture Service, New York, distributor of longer films, according to the announcement. The staff includes Doris Warner LeRoy, daughter of Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros. Formerly of the film staff of Nelson Rockefeller, Mrs. LeRoy is heading distribution development for Motion Picture Networks as well as acting as sales liaison with the production division. MPN's first distribution contract was on behalf of NBC's "Parade of Stars," setting four one-minute film trailers in over 800 theatres, it was stated.

Nathanson Resigns

Morton Nathanson has resigned as Samuel Goldwyn's Eastern publicity and advertising representative, effective Nov. 11, it was announced yesterday. Nathanson's future plans will be revealed shortly, as well as his successor in the Goldwyn post.

Fisher With Censors

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 1.—John Clyde Fisher, who resigned from the state board of censors two months ago to manage the Stanley Theatre in Camden, N. J., was yesterday sworn in again as a member of the Pennsylvania State Board of Censorship.

Hope Wants Year Off; Para. Objects

Hollywood, Nov. 1.—Bob Hope has informed Paramount that he will devote the next year to patriotic activities; but the studio, claiming he has agreed to appear in "Duffy's Tavern" and "My Favorite Brunette," strongly hinted today at protective action of an unidentified nature.

Louis Shurr, Hope's agent, admits the star will not do "Tavern" but says "Brunette," although its shooting will not start Monday as was planned, has been postponed because of a script disagreement.

To Work with U.S. On Salary Approval

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 1.—Formation of a cross-industry advisory committee to work with the Wage Stabilization unit of the U. S. Treasury on employment deals involving over $5,000 a year salary is expected to avert application to the Treasury rule requiring prior approval, which, studios and crafts told department officials in a Washington conference, would seriously impede production.

The committee would be patterned after the present one working successfully with the War Manpower Commission on a similar objective.

A decision about establishing the committee will follow a 60-day study of employment procedure by two Treasury representatives, who are expected to arrive here next week. Approximately 15,000 employment deals annually are affected.

More Subsequents Use High Scales

(*Continued from page* 1)

cial condition and somewhat accustomed to paying higher prices, for almost everything else, is accepting advanced admission-price films in neighborhood theatres here it is said. Some 150 neighborhod houses in this area are lining up to play "The Song of Bernadette" at $1.10 top for three to four midweek days starting Nov. 12, A. M. Van Dyke, 20th Century-Fox sales manager here reports.

In a test week's run in 12 theatres here, "Bernadette's" gross receipts and attendance figures topped the theatres' average double bill week. When the Balaban and Katz circuit turned down the picture for its neighborhood houses, Essaness bought it for two of its major houses on the West and North Side, while Warners introduced it at the Capitol.

The previous advance admission attraction was Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" which played in only two B and K houses.

Miss Blaine Joins Condon

Dorothy Blaine, who recently closed her own office, Dorothy Blaine Publicity, in Chicago, has joined Richard Condon, Inc., public relations counsellors here.

Look to Bonuses to Spur 'E' Bond Sale

(*Continued from page* 1)

the bonus payments public through a letter to industry sales chairmen Neil Agnew and Henry Ginsberg.

National Committee Maps Ohio Campaign

CLEVELAND, Nov. 1.—Plans were formulated for a thorough Sixth War Loan campaign for Ohio at a luncheon at the Hotel Statler here yesterday, with the national committee of the industry meeting with heads of exhibitor circuits, out-of-town exhibitors, branch managers, salesmen and bookers.

Among those present were S. H. Fabian, William F. Crockett, Martin Smith, president of the Ohio and national Allied, John Hertz, Jr., Charles Raymond, Ohio exhibitor chairman, Harry Brandt, Ned E. Depinet, Jack Kirsch, Nathan Yamins, Leon Bamberger, P. J. Wood, secretary of the Ohio Allied T. O., and representatives of the Treasury and War Departments.

Major Martini Asks Bond Purchases

FARGO, N. Dakota, Nov. 1.—Major Allen V. Martini, air hero, addressed the joint War Finance-War Activities Committee meeting here yesterday on the 6th War Loan drive. Today, Major Martini will address the 3,000 Farm Union members in Bismarck, and will also be heard in Minot.

Bergman Names 3 To New 'U' Posts

The promotion of Charles Simonelli to handle special events and Peggy Mahoney to contact New York newspapers was announced yesterday by Maurice Bergman, Universal Eastern advertising, publicity and exploitation director. Simonelli has been with Universal two years while Miss Mahoney has been with the company over a year as an associate publicist.

Bergman also announced the appointment of Perry Spencer as Southern advertising representative of the company, to work out of the Atlanta exchange under home office supervision. Spencer has held many posts in the industry including an association with Republic and Loew's, Inc.

Lt. Rathvon to Wed Miss Sally Raymond

Lieut. (jg) N. Peter Rathvon, Jr., USNR, of New York and Edgewater Point, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. Peter Rathvon, will be married to Miss Sally Raymond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anan Raymond, of Kenilworth, Ill., on Saturday, Nov. 4, at the First Congregational Church of Evanston, Ill.

Rathvon will act as his son's best man and Lieut. Rathvon's sisters, Joan Frances Rathvon and Judith Hall Rathvon, will be bridesmaids. Lieut. Rathvon, his parents and sisters left New York for Chicago last night. The groom is the son of N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO.

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DENNIS MORGAN ★ ELEANOR PARKER ★ DANE CLARK ★ FAYE EMERSON

IN WARNER'S

"The Very Thought Of You"

meaning YOU MR. EXHIBITOR!

WITH
BEULAH BONDI • HENRY TRAVERS
WILLIAM PRINCE • ANDREA KING

Directed by
DELMER DAVES

Screen Play by Alvah Bessie and Delmer Daves • Original Story by Lionel Wiggam

Produced by
JERRY WALD

JACK L. WARNER
Executive Producer

Long Runs on B'way Halt Product Flow

(*Continued from page* 1)

M-G-M's "National Velvet," to be followed by Columbia's "A Song to Remember." There may be a date open between the end of the "Parkington" run and the opening of "National Velvet," depending upon how well "Parkington" holds up.

M-G-M's "Marriage Is a Private Affair" is a powerful draw in its opening week at the Capitol, and will be followed on Nov. 16 by the same company's "30 Seconds Over Tokyo," which will play six weeks, to be followed by "The Thin Man Goes Home," another M-G-M release, for six more weeks.

The Criterion, with Paramount's "Rainbow Island" as its current tenant, will play Universal's "The Climax," starting Nov. 8. 'U's' "Can't Help Singing" will follow for the Christmas season. The Rivoli, with Paramount's "Frenchman's Creek" continuing, may book 20th Century-Fox's "The Keys of the Kingdom," but the deal has not yet been signed. The Palace, first-run RKO outlet, is booked solidly up to Christmas with company product, with the current "The Master Race" to be followed by "Tall in the Saddle" and "None But the Lonely Heart."

Other Theatres

The Globe, currently playing United Artists' "Abroad with Two Yanks," will next house Paramount's "Great Moment," and UA's "Dark Waters," respectively. The Gotham, with UA's "Summer Storm," will then get in the following order: 20th-Fox's "In the Meantime, Darling," UA's "Mr. Emanuel" and "Three's a Family." Loew's State will follow UA's "Since You Went Away" with the first-run Universal film, "San Diego, I Love You." The Hollywood and Strand will continue with Warner product, the Paramount with Paramount and the Roxy with 20th-Fox pictures.

Some top pictures which are ready for release but have not yet been set in any New York first-run are: David O. Selznick's "I'll Be Seeing You," which may be released soon after Thanksgiving, and "Spellbound," both UA releases; Samuel Goldwyn's "The Princess and the Pirate" in color, which is looking for a top house; International's "Woman in the Window" and "It's a Pleasure." Other UA product, ready and not yet set for a New York booking, are: Hunt Stromberg's "Guest in the House," Lester Cowan's "Tomorrow the World" and Bing Crosby's "The Great John L."

Companies Consider African Exchanges

(*Continued from page* 1)

tions are lifted after the war. Most theatres in the territory are operated by the Schlesingers.

Del Goodman, Paramount's West Coast district manager, recently returned from a six month's trip undertaken on special assignment by Barney Balaban, Paramount president, ostensibly to look into the possibility of establishing exchanges there.

October Key City Grosses Down But Still Top '43

(*Continued from page* 1)

Oct. 20-21 climbed back to $16,824, with 157 theatres reported on, and to $16,902 for the week of Oct. 27-28, with 145 theatres reported on.

During the preceding month, average grosses per theatre ranged from a one week low of $16,697 to a high of $18,775. In October, 1943, average grosses per theatre ranged from a low of $14,574 to a high of $15,237.

"Since You Went Away," a contender for box office leadership in September, stepped far out in front as its bookings increased last month. The Selznick production, backed by intensive publicity on its seven-star cast, appeared as the top grosser in 21 of the field reports. Closest runner-up was "Arsenic and Old Lace," which set the pace nine times, followed by "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," "Wilson," "Casanova Brown," "Janie," "Sweet and Low Down" and "Maisie Goes to Reno."

"Going My Way," after a long period on or near the summit, continued to do impressive business, as did "Marriage Is a Private Affair," "Mrs. Parkington," "None But the Lonely Heart," "Music in Manhattan," "The Conspirators," "The Hitler Gang," "An American Romance," "Summer Storm," "Till We Meet Again," "Carolina Blues," "The Very Thought of You," "Barbary Coast Gent," "Wing and a Prayer," "Rainbow Island," "The Climax," "Abroad with Two Yanks," "The Impatient Years," "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine," "Dragon Seed," "Step Lively," "Youth Runs Wild," "I Love a Soldier," "Moonlight and Cactus," "Kismet," "Kansas City Kitty" and "The Seventh Cross."

Composite key first-run box office reports, compared with the same week last year, follow:

1944 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre	1943 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Dec. 31-Jan. 1	135	$2,213,500	$16,396	Jan. 1-2	151	$2,813,506	$18,632
Jan. 7-8	117	2,417,700	20,664	Jan. 8-9	154	2,424,300	15,742
Jan. 14-15	134	2,040,700	15,229	Jan. 15-16	149	1,830,500	12,285
Jan. 21-22	149	2,311,400	15,513	Jan. 21-22	127	1,648,600	12,981
Jan. 28-29	147	2,365,200	16,090	Jan. 29-30	127	1,789,500	14,091
Feb. 4-5	153	2,512,200	16,419	Feb. 5-6	126	1,743,000	13,040
Feb. 11-12	137	2,220,900	16,211	Feb. 12-13	132	1,919,000	14,588
Feb. 18-19	155	2,459,800	15,870	Feb. 19-20	139	1,885,900	13,568
Feb. 25-26	161	2,760,100	17,144	Feb. 26-27	149	2,005,200	13,458
March 3-4	147	2,397,100	16,307	March 5-6	142	1,933,400	13,615
March 10-11	147	2,463,400	16,758	March 12-13	151	1,944,600	12,878
March 17-18	153	2,661,100	18,761	March 19-20	143	1,968,300	13,764
March 24-25	150	2,487,700	16,585	March 26-27	147	1,938,200	13,185
Mar. 31-Apr. 1	152	3,025,000	13,329	April 2-3	123	1,785,800	14,519
April 7-8	153	2,340,600	15,298	April 9-10	147	2,029,100	13,803
April 14-15	143	2,506,800	17,530	April 16-17	147	1,868,500	12,711
April 21-22	148	2,564,200	17,326	April 23-24	158	2,006,200	12,634
April 28-29	130	2,090,900	16,084	Apr. 30-May 1	154	2,284,200	14,184
May 5-6	143	2,238,700	15,655	May 7-8	161	2,168,400	13,468
May 12-13	146	2,338,700	16,018	May 14-15	161	2,053,700	18,967
May 19-20	162	2,417,000	14,926	May 21-22	158	2,096,200	13,267
May 26-27	155	2,349,400	15,157	May 28-29	155	2,036,600	13,139
June 2-3	143	2,242,500	15,683	June 4-5	169	2,289,700	13,548
June 9-10	141	1,938,000	13,752	June 11-12	166	1,865,873	11,240
June 16-17	135	1,934,400	14,322	June 18-19	163	1,961,600	12,034
June 23-24	136	2,002,800	14,726	June 25-26	168	2,125,300	12,650
June 30-July 1	126	2,178,300	17,288	July 2-3	164	2,133,800	13,010
July 7-8	145	2,490,900	17,178	July 9-10	153	2,433,700	15,906
July 14-15	144	2,228,500	15,476	July 16-17	151	2,109,400	13,970
July 21-22	148	2,321,400	15,685	July 23-24	155	2,185,100	14,097
July 28-29	135	2,245,400	16,632	July 30-31	164	2,347,900	14,316
Aug. 4-5	141	2,324,500	15,777	Aug. 6-7	138	2,032,400	14,727
Aug. 11-12	148	2,355,200	15,913	Aug. 13-14	166	2,302,200	13,869
Aug. 18-19	153	2,514,100	16,433	Aug. 20-21	153	2,341,600	15,304
Aug. 25-26	141	2,516,800	17,850	Aug. 27-28	175	2,681,500	15,322
Sept. 1-2	127	2,313,600	18,217	Sept. 3-4	163	2,559,900	15,705
Sept. 8-9	144	2,703,600	18,775	Sept. 10-11	168	2,926,000	17,417
Sept. 15-16	158	2,638,200	16,697	Sept. 17-18	165	2,456,300	14,887
Sept. 22-23	146	2,505,900	17,164	Sept. 24-25	175	2,588,200	14,790
Sept. 29-30	156	2,640,700	16,927	Oct. 1-2	166	2,473,800	14,902
Oct. 6-7	136	2,411,500	17,732	Oct. 8-9	173	2,595,800	15,005
Oct. 13-14	152	2,457,200	16,165	Oct. 15-16	167	2,544,600	15,237
Oct. 20-21	157	2,641,300	16,824	Oct. 22-23	163	2,479,000	15,209
Oct. 27-28	145	2,450,900	16,902	Oct. 29-30	179	2,608,800	14,574

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UA Honors Coplan At Farewell Dinner

David Coplan, managing director for United Artists in Great Britain, was honored at a farewell dinner last night at Toots Shors by Gradwell L. Sears, vice president, and Carl Leserman, general sales manager of U. A.

Among those attending were Dr. Alexander Galperson, Barrington C. Gain, Ronald Neame, Lowell Calvert, David Weshner, Paul Lazarus, Jr., Arthur Kelly, Louis Hyman, Seymour Poe, Harry Kosiner, Walter Gould, Ed Schnitzer, Harry Gold, Joe Unger, Paul Lazarus, Sr., Emanuel Silverstone, Lou Pollock, James Dunn, Rex Williams, Phil Dow, Charlie Steele, Bernie Kauber, Tom Mulrooney, Sam Lefkowitz, and Jack Ellis. Coplan is expected to leave for London in the next few days.

Crescent Appeal to Be Heard Monday

(*Continued from page* 1)

for confirmation of the district court decision in its entirety, plus an injunction to prevent further theatre acquisitions outside of Nashville without court approval. The Crescent appeal cited 26 alleged errors made by the lower court and contended that the decision was not justified.

Because of the importance of the case and the fact that Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, who headed the trial staff in Nashville, is tied up with the Schine case, Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, chief of the antitrust division, is expected to present the argument for the Government. Counsel for Crescent are George H. Armistead, Jr., and William Waller.

Rank Seeks to End Curbs on Studio Help Interchange

(*Continued from page* 1)

said, "to capture a fair share of the world's film markets." In line with these plans Rank intends to send a lot of his production people to Hollywood to study American production methods. "Hollywood's producers, actors and directors want to go to England to make pictures," he said, citing their reasons as a desire to get closer to the center of things.

"The greatest problem in English production is the shortage of studio space," Neame said, indicating that postwar plans will undoubtedly call for the doubling of present facilities which are geared to a maximum of 70 feature films per year.

Neame explained that while in the prewar period expenditures on British films were limited to about $500,000 so that they would return a profit in the British market without thought of returns from other markets, Rank's present thinking in terms of a world market is permitting budgets up to $2,000,000. He said it would take British production 10 years to build up what Hollywood has today in the way of facilities and indicated that Rank intends to bring several key people from Hollywood as advisers.

Neame made a study of American production methods, including the proper type of dialect for British films, citing the in-between dialect of such stars as Ronald Colman, Herbert Marshall and Greer Garson as the type he believes to be most suitable for future British productions.

Cross-Examination Of Schine Begun

(*Continued from page* 1)

garding financial investments in various theatre properties. Cross-examination will extend well into tomorrow and perhaps Friday.

Earlier, under direct examination, Schine denied that he ever had told a prospective theatre seller that if he did not sell he would have difficulty in getting product for his theatre, or that he had told such a person that if he did not sell, Schine would open another theatre in the town. The defendant also categorically denied that he had ever told anyone else to make such statements for him in negotiating for theatres, that he was never aware that anyone had made such statements, and that he had never approved such statements. Schine also denied that he had ever had a conversation verbally or in writing with any employe of the major film companies, telling them not to deal with a competitor. He also denied having ever told a film company that if it sold to a competitor he would not buy from them elsewhere in his circuit. At the conclusion of these denials, McClennen charged that the alleged conversations, testified to by Government witnesses, "never occurred."

Earlier, McClennen took Schine through all the towns in which he had acquired theatres over a period of years, and questioned him concerning each transaction. Schine also testified that he had had difficulty in obtaining pictures and had to part-time his Jefferson, in Auburn.

L. T.

"It means
LOTSA
THRILLS!"

"That's right,
what else?"

"How about
LOVELY
TORSO?"

"Correct!
What else?"

"Definitely—
LOBBY
TIE-UPS!"

"And now
come on
and meet
L. T. in
person!"

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
MGM

Bonds Buy Bombs!
Sock 'em with the 6th!

(next page)

What a welcome the fans are giving to lovely, luscious

LANA TURNER!

At the Capitol, N. Y. and from coast-to coast they're eyeing and sighing and buying and buying!

LANA TURNER

in

"MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR"

with

JAMES CRAIG JOHN HODIAK

FRANCES GIFFORD • HUGH MARLOWE

NATALIE SCHAFER • KEENAN WYNN • HERBERT RUDLEY

A ROBERT Z. LEONARD PRODUCTION

Screen Play by David Hertz and Lenore Coffee • Based on the Novel by Judith Kelly

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Directed by ROBERT Z. LEONARD

Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN

"It also means LEO TOPS!"

'SYWA' Strong In Otherwise Dull L. A. Week

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 1.—Holdovers had the best of a quiet week, "Since You Went Away" getting $46,500 in its third week at the Los Angeles, Egyptian and Ritz, where average is $33,000, and "None But the Lonely Heart" taking $35,00 for its second week in the Pantages Hillstreet tandem which averages $36,400.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 1:

"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,200).
"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,200).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd wk. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,500).
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
"Mademoiselle Fifi" (RKO)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd wk. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $6,200).
"Girl Rush" (RKO)
"None But the Lonely Heart" (KRO)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd wk. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $19,700).
"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,100).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd wk. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $14,900).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Girl Rush" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd wk. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,700).
"Rainbow Island" (Para) 7 days
PARAMOUNT (HOLLYWOOD)—(1,407) (50c-60c-80c-90c-$1.00) Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Rainbow Island" (Para) 7 days
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (DOWNTOWN)—(3,595) (50c-60c-80c-90c-$1.00. (Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd wk. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $8,700).
"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. (Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,500).
"The Conspirators" (WB) 7 days, 2nd wk.
WARNER BROS. (HOLLYWOOD)—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $13,619. (Average: $17,000).
"The Conspirators" (WB) 7 days, 2nd wk.
WARNER BROS. (DOWNTOWN)—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $15,378. (Average: $18,700).
"The Conspirators" (WB) 7 days, 2nd wk.
WARNER BROS. (WILTERN)—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $13,321. (Average: $15,200).

Second Week for 'SYWA' in Ind'pls.

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 1.—"Since You Went Away" in its second week at Loew's will rate top place in receipts here this week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31-Nov. 2:

"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"Song of the Open Road" (UA)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,600).
"Meet the People" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Gross: $5,100. (Average: $5,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days, second week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, move-over from Indiana. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $4,900).

Frisco Mark For 'SYWA'

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 1.—All length-of-run and attendance records at the United Artists went toppling as "Since You Went Away" entered its 11th week. Gross for 10 weeks run was $106,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31 to Nov. 2:

"Strange Affair" (Col.)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $15,000).
"Since You Went Away" (U.A.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (74c-$1.20) 7 days, 10th week. Gross: $13,800. (Average, $14,500).
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $27,000).
"Jimmy Steps Out" (Astor Pictures)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $24,500. (Average, $25,000).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
"Oh, What a Night" (Mono.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average, $28,000).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,748) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average, $20,000).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, Moveover from Fox. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $13,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
"Devil Boats" (WB)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $12,000).

St. Louis Grosses In Mild Recession

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 1.—Campaign distractions, early Christmas shopping and Indian Summer weather are cited as among the factors contributing to moderate business here.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 1:

"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,700).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,900).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,900).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"Dixie Jamboree" (PRC)
FOX—(5,028) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,700).
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
"Meet Miss Bobby Socks" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $7,100).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
"Janie" (WB)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $5,200).

Court Halts SOEG Political Spending

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 1.—Superior Court Judge Emmet H. Wilson today granted a temporary injunction against the Screen Office Employes Guild use for political activities of funds collected from members and gave the guild 10 days in which to answer a conspiracy allegation by four complaining members. Simultaneously, the court denied a petition for a restraining order to prevent the guild's use of funds to fight "Proposition 12" in the Nov. 7 election.

Industry to Aid N. Y. Police Show

The entertainment committee for the annual Police Athletic League benefit, "Stars Shine for P.A.L.," will meet Wednesday to discuss the program for the forthcoming show which will be held Dec. 12 at Madison Square Garden.

Among those serving on the entertainment committee are James Sauter, chairman; Leon Leonidoff, Nat Kalcheim, C. C. Moskowitz, Lester Isaacs, Russell Markert, Robert M. Weitman and Gus Eyssell. An organizational meeting was held this week by Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine.

Mexicans to Study P. C. A. Operations

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 1.—President Manuel Avila Camacho has ordered the Ministry of the Interior, which has charge of film censorship, to send representatives to the United States to see how self-regulation operates there. Results will be incorporated into a program the ministry will follow.

The president is considering the producers' request that film censorship be removed from government control and placed in the hands of the producers. The ministry recently assigned a special censor to 16 mm. picures.

Ennis' Father Dies

SALISBURY, N. C., Nov. 1. — E. Clyde Ennis, 65, father of 'Skinnay' Ennis, film player and band leader, died here today.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 1

PARAMOUNT has completed plans for "Blue Skies," to be produced and directed by Mark Sandrich. The story, based upon an original idea by Irving Berlin, is being developed by the composer and the producer for filming in Technicolor. Twenty of Berlin's best-known songs will be used.

Nancy Kelly has been assigned the feminine lead in Universal's "Song of the Sarong." . . . Shelby Payne, 21-year-old brunette, has been signed by Warner. . . . Raymond Crossett, story editor for International Pictures, has left for New York for conferences with leading publishers and agents in the interests of William Goetz.

•

Tom D'Andrea, first member of Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army" troupe to be given honorable discharge from the service, has been signed to a long-term acting and writing contract at Warners. . . . Hal B. Wallis has signed Anita Louise for one of the top roles in his first Paramount production, "The Love Letters."

•

Philip Yordan, author of "Anna Lucasta," has announced the formation of an independent producing company, whose first will be "Whistle Stop." No release has been set yet.

Ross Federal Service, Inc.

☆

Checking Based on Experience in Nation-Wide Coverage Meeting War-Time Problems

☆

Executive Offices:

18 EAST 48th STREET

New York City

BRAZIL
WONDER PICTURE OF THE YEA
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON • VELOZ and YOLAN
FORTUNIO BONANOVA • RICHARD LANE
FRANK PUGLIA, AURORA MIRANDA, ALFREDO de
HENRY DA SILVA, RICO de MONTEZ, LEON LENO
and ROY ROGERS
KING OF THE COWBOYS, as Guest Star
JOSEPH SANTLEY, Director
Screenplay by Frank Gill, Jr. and Laura Kerr
Original Story by Richard English
Songs: "BRAZIL" • "RIO DE JANEIRO"
"TONIGHT YOU'RE MINE" • "MOONLIGHT FIESTA"
"UPA UPA" • "VAQUERO SONG" • "CAFE" • "CHORO
BRAZIL WILL FILL THE TILL!

IS BRILLIANT: says The Trade Press

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER: "Top honors go to North and Santley. It is very apparent that Republic has spared neither time nor expense in the production of 'Brazil,' for it is as classy, sophisticated and sparkling a filmusical as the studio could turn out. Head and shoulders above any other picture Hollywood has made to date in the matters of authenticity and the capable handling of the delicate problem of depicting our South American neighbors to the world."

WEEKLY VARIETY: "Sock musical: top biz and holdovers in most spots. Should prove a block-buster at the wickets."

MOTION PICTURE HERALD: "Republic's bid for major attention is now supported by a major attraction in the musical comedy field. 'Brazil' is gay and tuneful, handsome in setting, engaging in story and well endowed with singing and dancing talent."

THE FILM DAILY: 'Romance and music are wedded in 'Brazil' to create a show that is easily the worthiest of its kind to come from Republic. Here is big-time entertainment astutely keyed to popular taste."

BOXOFFICE: "A tuneful, romantic, bright morsel of good entertainment. Mounted expertly to reflect the upped appropriation that went into its making, the offering is breezily-written and dialogued, expertly-directed, competently-delineated, and tauntingly-melodied. Production numbers are clever, original and masterfully staged."

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW: "The music, fresh background and intriguing personality of Tito Guizar will have sure-fire appeal for all types of audiences. This is an 'A' picture and should be handled as such. Treat it right and it will treat your box office to a party of big profits."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY: "Hats off to a young company with a grand, big show; a smooth, charming, clever and extremely amusing musical that fulfills the familiar box-office dictum of being 'different but not too different.' Exhibitors will do well to reserve a top spot for 'Brazil.' "

DAILY VARIETY: " 'Brazil,' a musical with a Latin-American background carrying one of the highest budgets in the history of Republic, is worthy of its production. Excellent humor in the dialogue; smart, well-timed direction."

HARRISON'S REPORTS: "Produced on a lavish scale, this is a delightful combination of romantic farce and music, different from the usual run of stories generally found in musical entertainments. Its Brazilian background is colorful and interesting, the comedy situations good, the dialogue witty, and the music by Ary Barroso, celebrated Latin-American composer, is so tuneful that one finds himself humming the songs at the conclusion of the picture."

HIGHLIGHTS REPUBLIC'S GOLD NEIGHBOR POLICY!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M—68 mins. (6028)	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—145 mins. (500)		(First Block) RAINBOW ISLAND (color) Eddie Bracken Dorothy Lamour C—96 mins. (4401)			(Seventh Block) (1943-'44) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins. (530)	(Special) SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Joseph Cotten Shirley Temple Jennifer Jones D—171 mins.	THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (9030)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—56 mins. (404)
Oct. 14	SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch George Zucco D—67 mins. (6021)	(Ninth Block) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—112 mins. (501)		TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton D—88 mins. (4402)		CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake O—56 mins. (3314)	BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434)			BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Kirby Grant Freddy Slack orch. M—70 mins. (9024)	THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid D—101 mins. (405)
Oct. 21	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D—61 mins. (6035)	BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502) MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—90 mins. (504)		NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather James Brown C—76 mins. (4403)	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—74 mins (41PS) (1943-'44)	CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson O—56 mins. (452) MY BUDDY Donald Barry D—69 mins. (403)	MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432)	(Third Block) (Oct. Release) THE BIG NOISE Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy C—74 mins. (506)		THE CLIMAX (Color) Susanna Foster Boris Karloff Turhan Bey D—86 mins. (9007)	
Oct. 28	THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix D—60 mins. (6022)	WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—108 mins. (503)	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins.	OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Diana Lynn Gail Russell C—81 mins. (4404)	WILD HORSE PHANTOM Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—(1944-'45) I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville C—68 mins.	STORM OVER LISBON D—86 mins. (323) GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES (re-issue) Gene Autry O—65 mins. (3307)	MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433)	IN THE MEAN-TIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Frank Latimore D—72 mins. (507)			
Nov. 4	SGT. MIKE Larry Parks D CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS Charles Starrett O—56 mins.	MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—117 mins. (505)	ENEMY OF WOMEN Paul Andor Claudia Drake D—86 mins.	DARK MOUNTAIN Ellen Drew Robert Lowery D—56 mins. (4405)	I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell D	END OF THE ROAD Edward Norris June Storey D—(402) 51 mins.	HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	IRISH EYES ARE SMILING Monte Wooley Dick Haymes June Haver M—90 mins. (508)		BOWERY TO BROADWAY Donald O'Connor Maria Montez Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey M—96 mins. (9072)	THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Faye Emerson D—(406)
Nov. 11	THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon D	KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—100 mins. (506)	GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	(Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins.	BLUEBEARD John Carradine Jean Parker Nils Asther D—70 mins.	SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN Alan Lane Linda Stirling O—56 mins. (463)	(Special Release) THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW (International) E. G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey D—99 mins. (582)	(Fourth Block) (Nov. Release)		DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker Paul Kelly D—64 mins. (9026)	
Nov. 18		MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (507)	WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger D—67 mins.	(Second Block) FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Color) Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova D—113 mins. (4408)	THE GREAT MIKE Robert Henry Stuart Erwin D—73 mins.	VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY Wild Bill Elliott Peggy Stewart O—55 mins. (3315)	(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN (International Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581)	LAURA Gene Tierney D—88 mins.		RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford Delta Rhythm Boys D—63 mins. (9029)	
Nov. 25		NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Reissue) Jeannette Mac Donald Nelson Eddy M—106 mins. (508)	SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore O	MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds D—84 mins. (4410)	CASTLE OF CRIMES Keneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall D	FACES IN THE FOG Jane Withers Paul Kelly Lee Patrick D—71 mins. (404)	(1944-'45) (First Block) (1944-'45) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505)	SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Michael O'Shea M THE WAY AHEAD (British) David Niven D		ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Charles Korvin Ella Raines D	THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Jane Wyman Jack Carson C—102 mins.
Dec. 2	SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks D	AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards D—122 mins. (510) LOST IN A HAREM Abbott and Costello C—89 mins. (509)	CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom C	THE MAN IN HALF-MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker D—92 mins. (4407)	ROGUES GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond C		NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501) GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins. (504)	(Fifth Block) (Dec. Release) WINGED VICTORY Edmond O'Brien Jeanne Crain D		MURDER IN The BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook John Litel D—61 mins. (9034)	
Dec. 9	STEPPING OUT Fred Brady Jeff Donnell William Wright C		SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson D—68 mins.	AND NOW TOMORROW Loretta Young Alan Ladd D—85 mins. (4406)	OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe Al St. John O THE TOWN WENT WILD Freddie Bartholomew Jimmy Lydon D		TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines O—87 mins. (503)	KEYS OF THE KINGDOM Cedric Hardwicke Roddy MacDowall D		HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Jr. C—64 mins. (9031)	
Dec. 16			ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—76 mins.	ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker C—76 mins. (4409)			THE MASTER RACE Carl Esmond Osa Massen Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey D—96 mins. (502)	SAN DEMETRIO (British) Walter Fitzgerald Ralph Michael D—105 mins.		MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Grace McDonald Bob Crosby M—63 mins.	

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following:]

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 87 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1944 | TEN CENTS

INDUSTRY IN LINE IN 6TH DRIVE TO HELP BEAT JAPS

OWI Overseas Film Unit Made 31 Films

Documentaries Shown In 41 Countries

The Office of War Information's overseas film bureau, headed by Robert Riskin, has produced 19 documentaries for exhibition in 41 countries since March, 1943, and has 12 more in work, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned yesterday. These films were produced to interpret the American way of life and our participation in the war to neutral and Allied countries.

At first, the film bureau utilized industrial films made available by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, other Government agencies and private documentary producers. From

(*Continued on page* 30)

Green Hopeful of Strike Solution

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said he believed the jurisdictional dispute between the Screen Set Decorators Local 1421 and the IATSE Local 44, Hollywood, could be settled without the formality of a War Labor Board hearing by the AFL members of the NWLB.

A spokesman for the National War Labor Board said that the issue had been turned over to Green with a re-

(*Continued on page* 26)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Together Again," Columbia, will be found on page 30.

Raw Stock Shortage Hits Government's Film Use

The critical situation in raw film stock which has caused delay in current releases also is impeding the release of timely U. S. and British Government war films, it is learned here. The latest film to be affected is the British Ministry of Information "V-1" short, dealing with the robot bomb attack on England, which has been set for release through the War Activities Committee Nov. 16.

While most film companies are finding it difficult to keep within their War Production Board raw stock allocations for the current quarter, the Government agencies find themselves unable in some cases to secure raw stock actually within their allocations.

To facilitate the immediate release of "V-1," British Information Services here offered to supply the 500,000 feet of raw stock needed for the prints from its allocations for the year, although the Office of War Information would ordinarily have supplied the raw stock as it does for all WAC releases. BIS was allocated some 11,000,000 feet of raw stock for its needs here this year, of which only 7,000,000 feet have been used thus far, it

(*Continued on page* 30)

'Forever Amber' Film Rights To 20th-Fox

Twentieth Century-Fox has purchased the film rights to "Forever Amber," Kathleen Winsor's current best-selling and widely publicized novel dealing with an immoral woman's adventures during the Reformation Period, for $200,000.

Although the sale by the author and the publisher, Macmillan Co., through Annie Laurie Williams, literary agent for the book, is an outright one and not on an option basis, it has been made subject to the approval by the Production Code Administration of the film treatment to be prepared from the book.

Boyd Will Be Named Number 1 Cowboy

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 2.—The Western Motion Picture Awards Association on Sunday, will proclaim William Boyd, the number one Western leading man. Wild Bill Elliott will be named number two, with Roy Rogers named the number one all-around cowboy, and Johnny Mack Brown the number two all-around cowboy. Dale Evans will be named the number one Western leading woman and Donnie Stewart the number one juvenile.

Appropriate ceremonies will accompany the awards at a Hollywood Bowl ceremony with Western-type entertainment and Rudy Vallee as master of ceremonies. At that time, Harry Sherman's "Buffalo Bill" will be

(*Continued on page* 26)

A. W. Smith Called In Schine Defense

BUFFALO, Nov. 2.—Schine Theatres' defense to Government charges of violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act continued in Federal court here today, with A. W. Smith, Jr., Eastern division sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, prepared to take the stand as a defense witness. He told MOTION PICTURE DAILY he will stay in Buffalo overnight in order to complete his testimony.

Another defense witness was William C. Rowell, of Rochester, salesman for 20th-Fox, who in the fall of 1941 had conversations with Hubert P. Wallace at the Strand Theatre, Syracuse, with reference to Wallace's seeking product. Rowell said Sydney Samson, 20th-Fox branch manager in

(*Continued on page* 27)

Heavy Emphasis on Bond Premieres and Free Movie Day Aimed at Japs

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

The experiences gained, and efforts expended by the nation's 16,000 theatre operators, several thousand exchangemen, and countless numbers in home offices, and in Hollywood and affiliated fields, in the five World War II war loans to date, have equipped the industry to quickly, and with precision, ready its drive organization for the sixth. The guns are already well primed to fire on the drive's opening, Nov. 20, aimed at Tokyo and a $14,000,000,000 goal which will help send men and materials further and further into the Pacific and on to Hirohito's mainland. *Taps for the Japs* is the slogan. War Bond Premieres and Free Movie Days will be the chief instruments.

(Twenty-two pages of special Sixth War Loan inaugural material and advertising messages start on page three of this issue).

Full resources of the industry are now completely mobilized for the

(*Continued on page* 22)

Quigley Award for Bond Showmanship

A special Quigley Award consisting of a citation with a Diploma of Honor for the foremost service to the Sixth War Loan drive through theatre showmanship will be announced today by *Motion Picture Herald.* All campaigns in this competition also will be entered automatically in the annual competition for the 'War Showmanship Award,' which continues for the duration of the war.

Personal Mention

HAROLD FITZGERALD, Fox Wisconsin Amusement Co. president, was scheduled to leave for Milwaukee yesterday after attending meetings of National Theatres here.

•

LT. MORTON GERBER, formerly of Warner Bros. publicity department, is in New York awaiting orders placing him on the inactive list due to physical disability.

•

ARTHUR L. MAYER, deputy commissioner of the American Red Cross, Pacific Ocean area, is in San Francisco, awaiting transportation to his headquarters in Honolulu.

•

IRVING YERGIN, of the Warner Bros. publicity department, is the father of a nine-pound boy, born Nov. 1 in Brooklyn.

•

NATE GOLDSTEIN, New England theatre operator, returned to Springfield, Mass., yesterday after a New York visit.

•

PANDRO S. BERMAN, M-G-M producer will leave New York for Florida next week for an extended vacation.

•

CEDRIC GIBBONS, M-G-M studio art director, will arrive in New York on Nov. 10 accompanied by his wife.

•

R. V. DOWNING, treasurer of Radio City Music Hall, now in Hollywood, leaves there Nov. 9 for New York.

•

M. N. WOLF, New England district manager for M-G-M, returned to Boston from New York yesterday.

•

HAROLD HOPPER, M-G-M studio general manager, returned to New York from Washington yesterday.

•

HAROLD KURNITZ, M-G-M writer, is in New York for a brief stay.

•

NAT WOLF of the M-G-M Coast studios is in New York.

Postman MGM's New Aid to Cummings

Harold Postman of M-G-M's home office sales staff succeeds Arthur Sterling as assistant to Allan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations. Sterling will be assigned other duties on his return to the company, from which he has been taking a leave of absence due to illness. Postman joined M-G-M in 1927 in the contract department and had been assistant to Tom J. Connors and later to E. K. O'Shea, Eastern sales manager.

Denies African Branches

Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution for RKO, yesterday denied that his company was considering establishing its own exchanges in South Africa, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday.

UA and Rank Sign Distribution Pact

Contracts were signed here yesterday between United Artists and J. Arthur Rank's General Cinema Finance Company for UA to release seven films made by Rank's producing companies in the Western Hemisphere.

Maurice Leon, attorney, and Barrington C. Gain, Rank distribution representative, signed the pacts for GCF, and Paul O'Brien, counsel for UA, and Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution, signed for UA.

The seven pictures covered by the contracts are "Colonel Blimp," "Blithe Spirit," "This Happy Breed," "Caesar and Cleopatra" and "Henry the Fifth," all in color and "Her Man Gilbey" and "Mr. Emmanuel." "Mr. Emmanuel" will be the first film released under the deal which is understood to be for five years, but no release date has yet been set by UA.

Oldest Ohio Owner Buys First Stamp

COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 2.—First sale in Ohio of the new three-cent stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of motion pictures was made here by Postmaster Nathan A. McCoy to Al Taylor, 98 years old, owner of the Dixie Theatre and the oldest exhibitor in the state. William Elder, manager of Loew's Ohio, and P. J. Wood, secretary of ITO of Ohio, were among those who witnessed the event.

MGM Field Auditors To Meet Next Jan.

The annual meeting of M-G-M field auditors and Commando Crew girls will be held Jan. 2-6 at the Hotel Astor, New York, it was announced yesterday by Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer, and Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations. Stern and Cummings will conduct the sessions which will have an attendance of 20, exclusive of home office executives and sales personnel.

Jersey Allied Units To Meet on Nov. 15

A joint luncheon meeting of the North and South Jersey units of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will be held at the Stacy-Trent Hotel, Trenton, Nov. 15. Prominent state officials will speak at the meeting and a screening of the safety film prepared for Commissioner of Motor Vehicles McGee will be held.

The meeting, to be presided over by co-chairmen Helen Hildinger and Si Meyers, is the first of several joint meetings of the units which will be held during the coming year.

Danson Leaves Para.

Harold Danson, assistant to Robert M. Gillham, Paramount advertising and publicity director, will leave the company Nov. 13 to join Kayton-Spiero Co., Inc., advertising agency.

Coming Events

Nov. 5—Western Motion Picture Radio Awards Association meeting, Hollywood Bowl, Hollywood.

Nov. 11—Motion Picture Associates' Sixth War Loan dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.

Nov. 13—Variety Club testimonial dinner for Lou Golding, Ten Eyck Hotel, Albany.

Nov. 14—'Night of Stars,' for United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 17—Sixth War Loan campaign breakfast, Hotel Astor, New York.

Nov. 20—Sixth Loan rally, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 20-Dec. 16—Sixth War Loan campaign.

Nov. 20-Dec. 4—American Federation of Labor conference, New Orleans.

Nov. 23-25—National 'Free Movie Day' at theatres for Sixth War Loan.

Freeman May Head Coca-Cola Company

Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president and studio head of Paramount and formerly of Atlanta, Ga., home of Coca-Cola, is reported as having been offered the presidency of that company, which produces the soft drink Freeman is widely known to favor.

Checking the report yesterday, a MOTION PICTURE DAILY reporter called Barney Balaban, Paramount president, for comment. An assistant in Balaban's office said that Balaban was attending a meeting of the Paramount executive committee but volunteered this comment: "Could be. He drinks enough of it to deserve the presidency."

Crescent Counsel Ready for Appeal

NASHVILLE, Nov. 2.—Armistead, Waller, Davis & Lansden, counsel for Crescent Amusement Co. in the Government anti-trust suit against the circuit, are ready for the U. S. Supreme Court hearing of cross appeals in the case, set for Monday in Washington.

George H. Armistead, Jr., chief counsel, and William Waller will represent Crescent at the hearing. Tony Sudekum, Crescent president, and probably other officials of the company will attend the hearnig.

Monogram To Vote On New Preferred

Monogram Picture Corp. stockholders will meet Dec. 6 to authorize an increase in capital stock from 1,000,000 to 1,100,000 shares, the new issue to be preferred of $10 par value. Emanuel & Co. are to offer the new shares when authorized at a yearly dividend rate of 50 to 60 cents a share. The company is expected to realize $860,000 on the sale of the new shares.

Marines Capture Saipan 'Reissues'

Somewhere in the Pacific (Delayed).—Marine captors of Saipan and Tinian collected a film bonus in the form of old Hollywood films which were found in the possession of the Japan there.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
SUPER-SHOCK SENSATION!
"THE MASTER RACE"
George COULOURIS Stanley RIDGES
Osa MASSEN Carl ESMOND

Paramount presents
PAULETTE GODDARD SONNY TUFTS
in
"I LOVE A SOLDIER"
In Person
TONY PASTOR
and his Band
BERT WHEELER
MARION HUTTON
HAL LEROY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

STATE
ON SCREEN 2nd WEEK
DAVID O. SELZNICK'S
'SINCE YOU WENT AWAY'
IN PERSON WILL
OSBORNE and ORCH.
RAY ENGLISH
OTHERS

★★ VICTORIA ★★
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
20 CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
WILSON
IN TECHNICOLOR

Gene Tierney - Dana Andrews - Clifton Webb
"LAURA"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Plus on Stage—Hazel SCOTT - Jackie MILES
Jerry WAYNE - HARRISON and FISHER
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Three 'Musts' for 6th: Bond Premieres, Free Movie Day, Junior Matinees

Theatre Bond Premieres Top All Promotions

In the Fifth War Loan 5,058 War Bond Premieres, nearly twice as many as in the fourth drive, set new sales records across the country. Not only do the premieres sell bonds for admission, but they also lead to big sales inside the motion picture theatre.

The industry's national committee for the Sixth War Loan, opening Nov. 20 and running through Dec. 16, disclosed here yesterday that Bond Premieres are the single biggest grossers for the U. S. Treasury Department in any industry, adding "and every exhibitor can put on a Bond Premiere." They must first make the necessary arrangements to get a picture, in the following manner:

Three Steps to Get 6th Bond Premiere Film

1. Contact any of the exchanges with which they do business for a picture under the rules outlined in the Bond Premiere agreement. (Allow some choice of picture.)

2. If the theatre is in a town with a population of not over 7,500, and if no picture is available, the exhibitor must contact the distribution chairman in his territory for a list of available Bond Premiere pictures.

3. From this list, he is to select and submit to the distribution chairman in his territory a list of several pictures to allow a choice of selection. A booking will then be made for him and he will be notified.

The first contact that should be made after getting the picture is the War Finance Committee, advising it of the Premiere date and asking it to set up a committee to handle the sale of 'E' bond units for the house. If the theatre is big enough, the seating should be scaled so larger denomination bonds in the 'E' series can be sold.

If the local Chamber of Commerce

(Continued on page 20)

6th WAR LOAN BUY THAT "EXTRA BOND" Smash 'em with the SIXTH!

EXHIBITORS! Here's How to Get Started for the 6th

Check Off This List . . . Act On Each Item Before November 20

NOVEMBER

3

FRIDAY

- ☐ **1 Contact your local War Finance Committee and also your local exhibitor, distributor and publicity 6th Drive chairmen for plans for your area.**
- ☐ **2 Check your bond booths and other 6th campaign equipment and make certain that they are in order.**
- ☐ **3 Order your accessories and the 'Smashing 6th' trailers.**
- ☐ **4 Select your ads from the special 6th Drive pressbook. Note the cooperative Free Movie Day ads. Order free mats from National Screen exchanges.**
- ☐ **5 Cooperate with theatremen and offer theatre services to local Chambers of Commerce.**
- ☐ **6 Make arrangements with patriotic and social groups to man your bond booth.**
- ☐ **7 Set date for your Bond Premiere.**
- ☐ **8 Pick a Saturday for Children's Bond Show.**
- ☐ **9 Remember Thanksgiving Day and Pearl Harbor Day, December 7th. Both fall within the drive dates. Make use of these days to sell more bonds.**
- ☐ **10 Arrange tie-ups for merchandise for your Bond Auction.**
- ☐ **11 Contact local War Heroes, Gold Star Mothers and good speakers for your Bond Shows.**
- ☐ **12 Set local talent now for Bond Stage Shows. Try dramatic societies, schools, radio stations or booking offices.**
- ☐ **13 Get in touch with nearest Army or Naval base to obtain talent and lobby display material. (Can a parade be arranged?)**
- ☐ **14 Plan your publicity now. Make use of all the material in the pressbook. See newspaper editors, radio men, etc., for active cooperation.**
- ☐ **15 Buy the First Bond yourself—then start selling.**

AND DO IT NOW!

National Free Movie Day for Pearl Harbor

Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7, is the unanimous choice of both Government and the motion picture industry's Sixth War Loan committee for Free Movie Day for that drive. "That date is one with which every American especially wants to repay the treachery of our enemy."

The tie-up, it is said, will give the campaign at theatres a running start for the last week of the Sixth Drive.

Free Movie Day was tried on a nationwide basis for the first time in the Fifth. More than 8,000 theatres participated in a simultaneous bond-selling event.

Exhibitors contemplating a Free Movie Day are advised to first read over the distributors' agreement and note that the distributors have endorsed the plans of the Sixth War Loan campaign committee for National Free Movie Day; next, select a picture that will have the widest possible mass appeal, and thirdly, emphasize by an all-out campaign that persons who can present proof at the box office that on Dec. 7 they purchased a Series 'E' War Savings Bond of any denomination, between whatever hours are specified, will be admitted free of charge. The bonds can be purchased either at the theatre or through any other bona-fide issuing agent.

Stress Bonds Instead Of Selling Tickets

An exhibitor need not give away all seats on Free Movie Day. Patrons may purchase a ticket and gain admission. But exhibitors are urged to try to sell a Bond instead of a ticket wherever they can.

"Free Movie Day is a wonderful opportunity for you, in cooperation with all the other theatre owners of your community, to express your appreciation to your fellow-townsmen for their patronage and cooperation,"

(Continued on page 20)

6th WAR LOAN BUY THAT "EXTRA BOND" Smash 'em with the SIXTH!

Thirty Days of Bond Promotions; Bond-Barrage of 6th Selling Ideas

THE War Activities Committee of the New York area has formulated a model day-by-day campaign outline for the use of exhibitors now and during the Sixth War Loan drive. The plan, which follows, can be adopted by any theatre owner. It was prepared by Harry Mandel's sixth drive publicity and promotional committee of Malcolm Kingsberg's New York area campaign group:

1. CALL A MEETING—Call a meeting of your theatre staff. Coordinate all theatre activity and determine at this meeting all factors comprising the entire campaign.

2. COMMITTEE COOPERATION — Give every cooperation possible to the local War Activities and War Finance chairmen and to district captains. Make every effort to have required reports in time, and see that they are sent to proper headquarters. Discuss drive ideas and problems with the drive captain and publicity man.

3. CHECK ACCESSORIES — Order accessories at once. National Screen is the contact for most of these: trailers, valances, pennants, 40x60, ad slugs, etc. Use all material sent from War Activities Committee headquarters.

4. DISPLAYS—Rough-cut ideas for lobby display, theatre front decorations, bond booth, etc.

5. PRESS.—Contact newspapers for possible ad tie-ups, cooperative pages, editorials, press releases, etc.

6. RADIO—Check local radio station for possible use of special transcriptions which may be available through the WAC headquarters. Check with local publicity chairman on this.

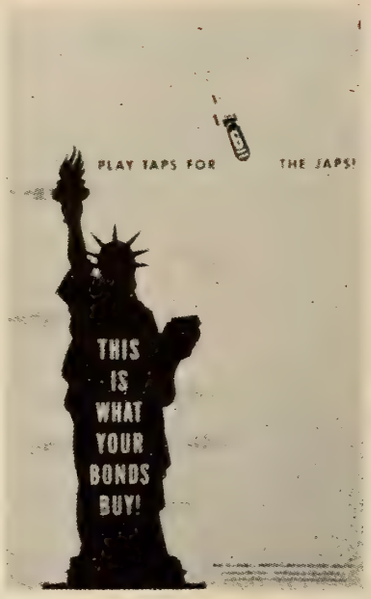
7. KICK-OFF—Nov. 20 is "B" Day, Kick-Off Day for the drive. Start now lining up activities for the opening. Line-up AWVS, CDVO and war veteran groups, Red Cross, local war heroes, master-of-ceremonies, color guard, band, etc.

8. CONVOY—Check with local captain and publicity man on the Bond Convoy leaving Times Square on Friday, Nov. 17, to be prepared to greet it.

9. RALLIES — Organize committees now for the planning of special events and rallies for every day in the week!

10. SPECIAL EVENTS—Arrange for special events for *Pearl Harbor-Free Movie Day, Thanskgiving Day* and *Pre-Christmas Bond Campaign.* These are perfect opportunities to boost bond sales quotas.

6th War Bonds for Liberty



A SIMPLE POSTER with one of the greatest messages in the world, *Liberty,* in silhouette, will greet motion picture patrons during the Sixth War Loan campaign in theatres with a message to make that patron an extra 'E'-bond-buyer between Nov. 20 and Dec. 16. The one sheet will be sent to all exhibitors by the industry's Sixth Drive national committee.

11. KIDDIE PREMIERE—Get after the youngsters! In cooperation with bond chairman or district captain, arrange a *Free Kiddie Premiere Show*—with bonds and stamps as admission.

12. MAILING LIST—Refer to mailing lists of previous bond buyers—for a post-card mailing to serve as a reminder to them that you are prepared to give them the same prompt service in their 6th War Bond purchases. Keep the barometer of sales on the up-grade at all times—check staffs for any flagging enthusiasm!

13. STREET PARADE—Plan for a street parade for the second week of the drive—it does wonders in perking up interest.

14. FEATURE TIE-INS—Watch bookings for possible tie-ins for ad copy with the titles of feature attractions. Keep feeding slogans and bond selling copy in daily ads.

15. "E"-BONDS—The most important thing in this Drive is to sell more *E-Bonds*—gear appeals to that!

16. BALLYHOO—If you have any street ballyhoos planned for coming attractions, hook up with a *6th War Loan* appeal.

17. 40x60 IDEA—Make a 40x60 lobby display and invite patrons to autograph in the spaces of bombs when they purchase a bond.

18. AUCTION NIGHT—Plan an Auction Night with a good speaker locally who knows his way around Bond Auction affairs—with the usual tie-up with merchants for most desirable items to be auctioned.

19. PROCLAMATION — Induce the Mayor to issue a proclamation designationg Nov. 20th as "B" Day.

20. POSTER CONTEST — Arrange a Sixth War Loan poster contest in schools. Set up a lobby display of the winning entries and offer promoted merchandise and guest tickets as prizes.

21. BONDS FOR STAFF—Starting with yourself — have every theatre employee buy an *Extra* Bond and make a public announcement of this fact via 30x40 in lobby: *Every Employee of This Theatre Has Purchased an Extra War Bond!*

22. PUBLIC BE SERVED—Make important issue to the public of this fact: that your theatre is open day and night, Sundays and holidays when a War Bond may be purchased.

23. THEATRE QUOTA—Set up a quota of sales for your theatre—make every employee morally responsible for maintaining it—and beating it—with rewards of extra days off to those showing the best effort.

24. TAKE STOCK — Take inventory with the staff on progress; tie-up loose ends, devise means of spurring the drive on.

25. HONOR MOTHERS—As a background for rallies devote special nights to Gold Star Mothers, Service Mothers, Army and Navy Mothers, Marine Mothers, Seabees' Mothers, Air Corps' Mothers. Enlist the cooperation of local veterans' groups to add color to these occasions.

26. THREE BIG DATES—Here are *Three Vitally Important Days*: Plan now to make the most of them for bond rallies: "B" Day (Monday, Nov. 20), *Thanksgiving Day* (Thursday, Nov. 23) and *Pearl Harbor-Free Movie Day* (Thursday, Dec. 7).

27. FILE—Keep a file of all dispatches, manuals, trade paper stories, concerning the Sixth War Loan. Check material for sources of new angles to be harnessed to campaign.

28. FINISHING TOUCHES—Now is the time to put the finishing touches to the campaign. Make that last spurt count in increased bond sales.

29. PLUG FOR KIDDIE SHOW—Make appeals at kiddie matinees for youngsters to fill up their stamp books and buy bonds.

30. WIND-UP—Going into the last, final phases of the campaign, check on last minute details for "B"-Day: *Pearl Harbor-Free Movie, Thanksgiving Day, Pre-Xmas Bond Campaign, Convoy Reception;* every planned event in your campaign.

Bomb to Tokyo!

Here is a method of making prospective purchasers feel they are taking an active part in beating the enemy. Borrow from an Army or Navy base a dummy bomb to be set up in the lobby, inviting buyers to autograph the bomb and send a 'personal message to Hirohito or Hitler.'

A GREAT NEW SALES SLANT
FOR THE GREATEST BOND DRIVE
OF THEM ALL

6th War Loan

NOVEMBER 20 TO DECEMBER 16

And Here It Is . . . . .

This Is The Best Way To Say "Thanks, Mr. Exhibitor"

The following pages are dedicated to this proposition! That the best way this industry can show its heartfelt gratitude to the exhibitors of America for the historic job they've done in the war effort is to give them the best materials to continue their honored task on the home front.

Too many people think this war is in the bag. But there's heartache aplenty ahead. The Pacific War will be won only at untold cost, untold hardship.

The new sales angle for the Sixth War Loan is to tell America every day in every way:

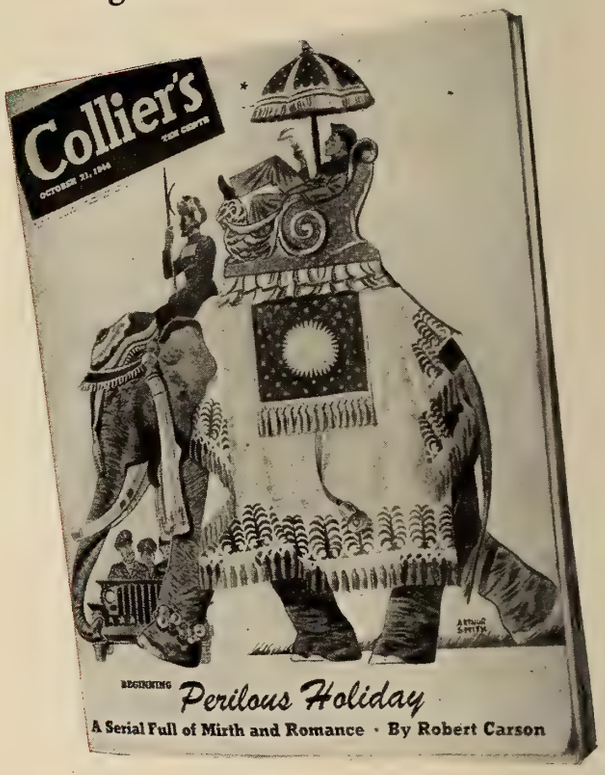
"BUY WAR BONDS AT YOUR MOTION PICTURE THEATRE . .

The only place where you can buy bonds every evening, Sunday, and Holiday."

The best way we can say "thanks" for the great job you've done and "Godspeed on the new" is with fighting materials. And here they are:

National Magazines Direct War Bond Buyers To Your Theatre!

Six million Collier's readers will be told to "Buy Bonds at Your Favorite Motion Picture Theatre" in a smash editorial in this Great National Magazine!



And This Collier's Feature is Only One of a Group of National Magazine Plugs of the Same Kind . . . Get Ready for Them. Your Public Will!

6TH WAR LOAN

NEWSPAPERS, COMIC STRIPS DIRECT BOND BUYERS TO YOUR THEATRE

Watch the papers for a flood of publicity angled to your sales slant . . . "Buy War Bonds at your favorite theatre."

EXTRA! 2 ADDED ATTRACTIONS! FREE!

8,000 SETS OF FULL-COLOR COMBAT PAINTINGS

8,000 Sets of Full-Color Combat Paintings (Reproductions) by Leading American Artists Supplied Free by Electric Boat Company.

8 Paintings to the Set, each 19 x 24. A free set and free display material kit to each exhibitor who writes in to The Theatre Display Dept., Electric Boat Co., 33 Pine St., New York. Exhibitors may keep paintings or award as prizes to 8 biggest bond buyers (make your request early...first come, first served).

800 SETS OF COMBAT PHOTOGRAPHS

800 Sets of Combat Photographs to be Loaned for Use . . . by the Folmer Graflex Corp. (Complete with Publicity Kit.)

25 Combat Photographs to each Set. For *loan* of set and publicity kit, exhibitors should write to: Folmer Graflex Corp., Rochester 6, New York, Attention of Mr. R. E. Robischon. Exhibitor must pay postage coming and going. This is a loan only. Again . . . first come, first served.

So Much for the Great Artillery Barrage...Now...

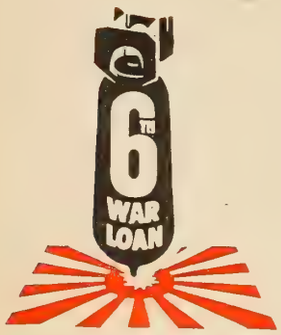
Important presentation to Exhibitors

STERLING SILVER MEDAL OF HONOR

will be given, free, to every exhibitor who actively participates in the Drive. Medals presented by the National Committee of the Sixth War Loan Drive.

NOW . . . *Let's go!*

YOUR THREE MAIN OBJECTIVES ARE

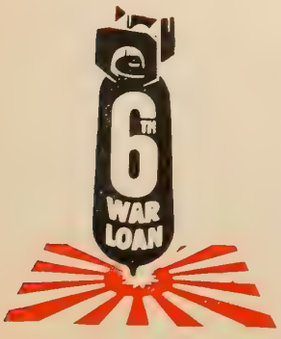


1.

War Bond Premieres

2.

Children's Premieres



3.

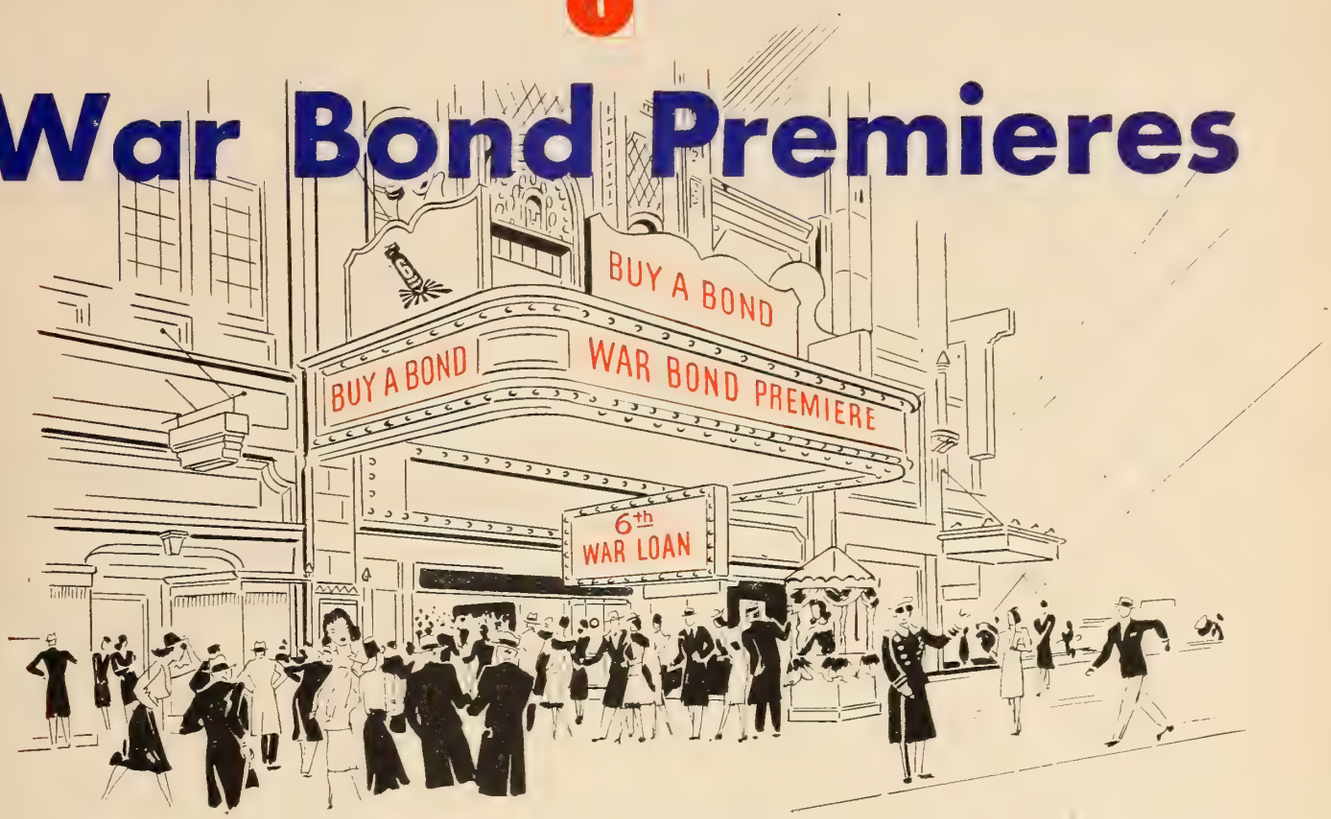
Free Movie Day

DEC. 7 PEARL HARBOR DAY

Always Sure-Fire On The "Theatre Front"!

1

War Bond Premieres



It's a proved fact that Bond Premieres are the single biggest grossers for the U. S. Treasury Department in any industry. And every exhibitor can put on a Bond Premiere.

HERE'S THE PITCH!

1 Contact any of the exchanges with which you do business for a new picture under the rules outlined in Bond Premiere Agreement. Allow some choice of Picture.

2 If your theatre is in a town with a population of not over 7,500, and if no picture is available, contact the Distributor Chairman in your territory for a list of available Bond Premiere pictures.,

3 From this list, select and submit to the Distributor Chairman in your territory a list of several pictures to allow a choice of selection. A booking will then be made for you and you will be notified.

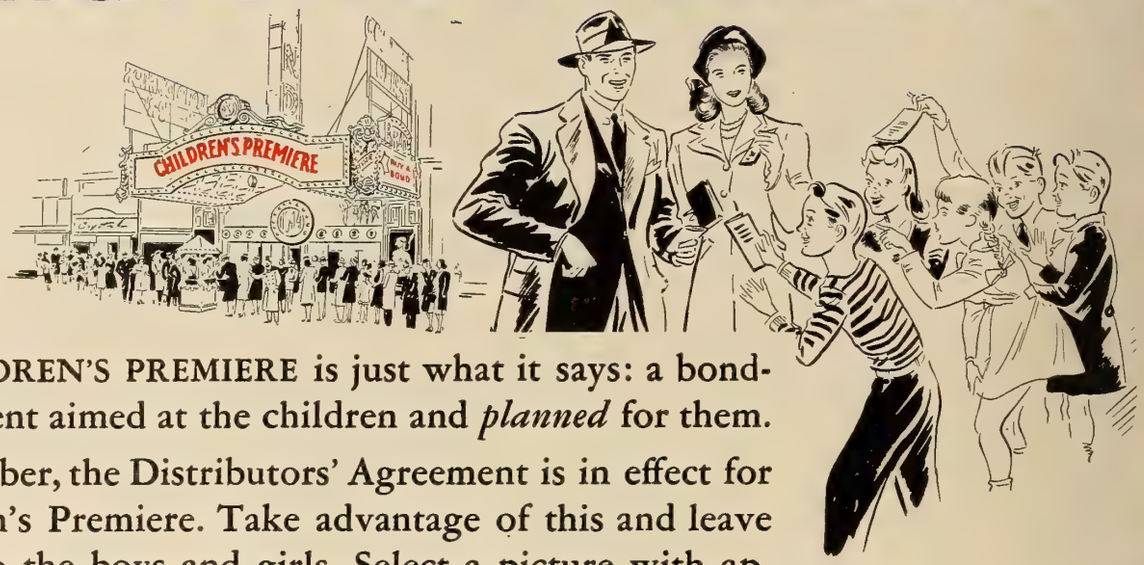
The first contact you should make after getting the picture is the War Finance Committee. Advise them of your Premiere date and ask them to set up a committee to handle the sale of "E" bond units for your house.

If the local Chamber of Commerce has a general Bond Committee appointed, be sure and contact them . . . telling them fully of your plans for a Bond Premiere. Enlist their aid in selling your tickets but bear in mind, the best success comes of having one central source for tickets. Don't have four or five places where tickets can be obtained for it only results in confusion and poor returns.

Get The Youngsters Into The Fight With A

2

Children's Premiere



A CHILDREN'S PREMIERE is just what it says: a bond-selling event aimed at the children and *planned* for them.

Remember, the Distributors' Agreement is in effect for a Children's Premiere. Take advantage of this and leave the rest to the boys and girls. Select a picture with appeal for youngsters . . . action, war or western. Pack the program with cartoons and other short subjects, sports, combat, etc.

Some of the ways to make the plan work:

1 You've got to let the children know about it. Hit the places they congregate and bill the day big.

2 Have spot announcements on local stations in early evening and daily teasers in newspapers.

3 Have a contest to select a Bond "King" and "Queen."

4 Tell school officials your plans. Organize team competition: Seniors vs. Juniors, etc. Promote awards.

5 Try the "Mayor-for-a-Day" Stunt. Through the Chamber of Commerce arrange to have the leading Bond seller appointed "Mayor-for-a-Day."

6 Ask the Boy and Girl Scouts for their efficient cooperation. Boy Scout troops will not only sell bonds but will distribute throw-aways for you and generally assist in running the day. They can usher for you and keep order.

7 Have newsboys deliver handbills on their regular routes.

6TH WAR LOAN

Make Your Public Remember Pearl Harbor With

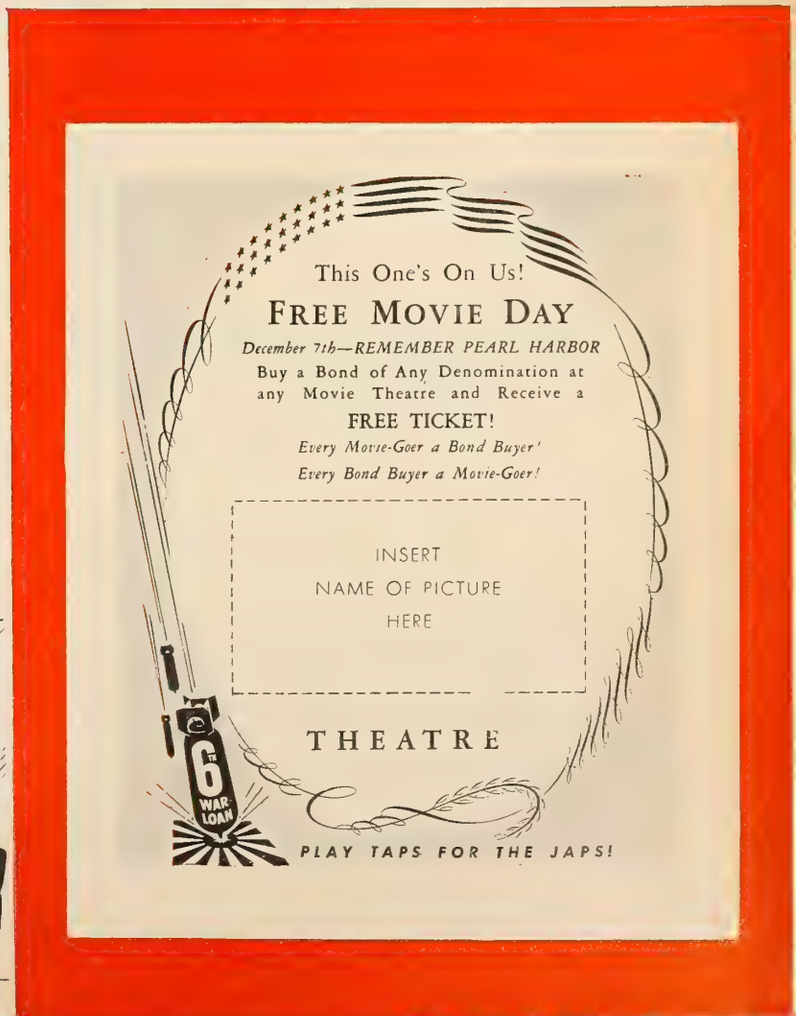
3

Free Movie Day

DECEMBER 7th!

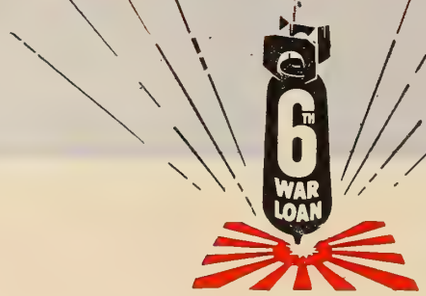
WITH PATRIOTIC FEVER running high, everyone will be eager to "Remember Pearl Harbor" with a bond. And Free Movie Day is the event to give your campaign a running start for the last week of the Sixth War Loan Drive.

As you remember, Free Movie Day was tried on a nation-wide basis for the first time in the Fifth War Loan Drive. More than eight thousand theatres participated in a simultaneous bond-selling event that turned out to be the sensation of the drive. It's been tested and proven tops, and now it's tied to one of the biggest, one of the most important, war dates in our history. The results can surpass anything the Motion Picture Industry has ever done for the Treasury Department if you will lay plans now to capitalize on the nation-wide publicity that will urge every American to Remember Pearl Harbor with an extra War Bond.

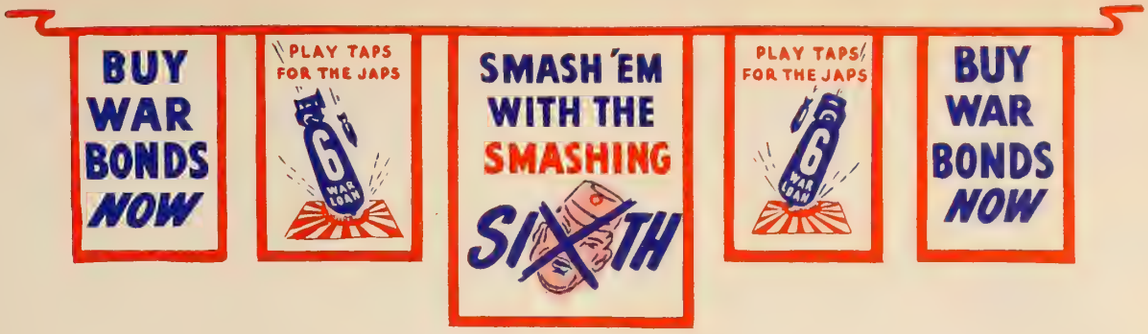


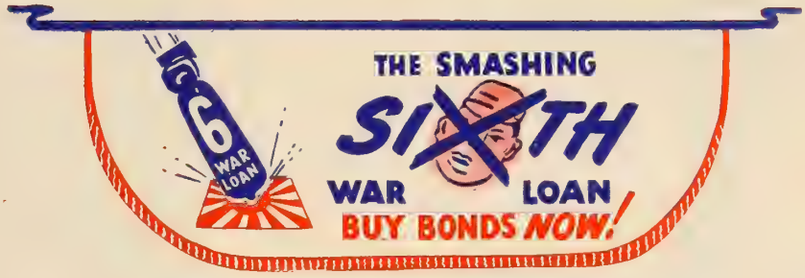
Accessories Are Your Ammunition And These Are

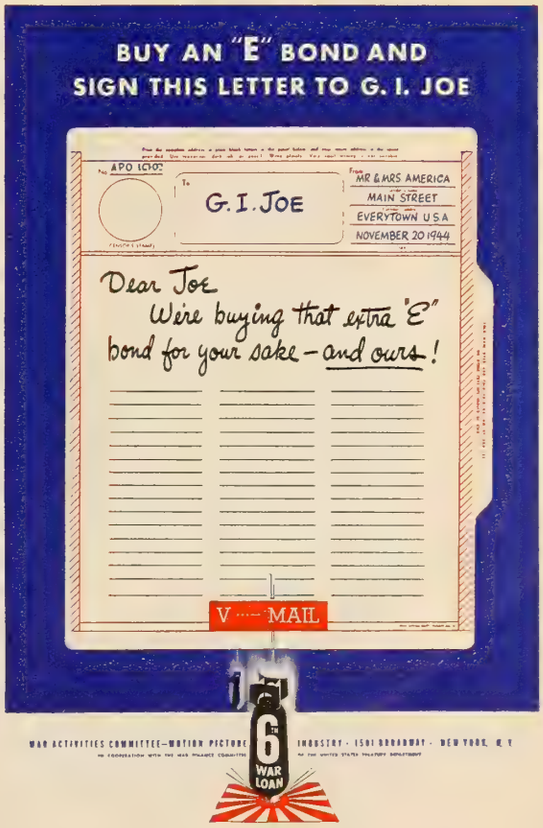
T.N.T.



HERE THEY ARE! Colorful—Dramatic—Eye-Catching—Posters and Displays—each one especially created to put "sell" in your lobby—designed to make your theatre headquarters for bond sales in your community. Use them—they're your T.N.T. to put explosive punch behind bond sales.







"Buy Bonds at Your Favorite Motion Picture Theatre. The only place where you can buy Bonds every evening, Sunday and Holiday."

PLAY TAPS FOR THE JAPS!

THIS IS WHAT YOU'RE SELLING BONDS FOR!

YOUR PRESSBOOK FOR THE SIXTH WAR LOAN DRIVE IS IN THE MAILS!

It's a working weapon, designed for easy use by you. If you fail to receive yours promptly, extra copies are available at your nearest National Screen Exchange.

This message was prepared and inserted in the trade press by:

Columbia Pictures Corp.
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures
Paramount Pictures Inc.
RKO-Radio Pictures, Inc.
Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp.
United Artists Corp.
Universal Pictures Company, Inc.
Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.

America's Fan Magazines Direct Their 20-Million Readers To Your Theatre

They're behind you with this three-point program!

1.

A BIG CONTEST $5,000 in Prizes

A total of $5,000 in prizes—awarded to the 10 exhibitors conducting the most ingenious, effective bond-selling drive in their theatre during the Sixth. For full details—see your trade papers—see your Fan Magazines.

2.

AN ALL-OUT COVER DISPLAY

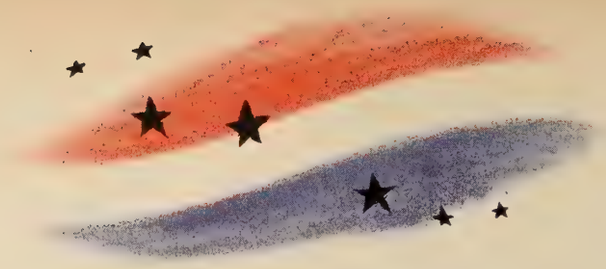
During months of November and December . . . the front cover of every Fan Magazine in the U.S.A. will display your drive slogan:

"BUY BONDS AT YOUR FAVORITE MOTION PICTURE THEATRE"

3.

BIG EDITORIAL COVERAGE

The editorial content of the Fan Magazines during November and December will include generous space on *your* work in this, and the previous five War Loans.



RADIO DIRECTS BOND BUYERS TO YOUR THEATRE

Every Radio Listener in America Will Be Reached at Least Five Times During the Period of the Drive!

And Every Broadcast and Guest Star Appearance Will Carry The Sales Message:

"Buy Bonds at Your Favorite Motion Picture Theatre . . . the only *place where you can buy Bonds every Evening, Sunday and Holiday."*

Nov. 20th—Monster War Bond Rally with Stars of Radio, Stage and Screen

Broadcast Coast-to-Coast Over the Major Networks

A big-time show going out over the air to the entire country! With famous commentators such as Lowell Thomas and Gabriel Heatter, radio shows such as "The Quiz Kids," "Coca Cola Spotlight Band," "Blind Date," etc., plus famous stars of stage and screen—all joining in to open up the Sixth War Loan with a bang!

Pearl Harbor Eve Radio Show December 6th

Your National Build-up for "Free Movie Day"

On the Eve of the most fateful day in American History! A heart-stirring radio show, featuring stars who've entertained overseas and who will go on the air with their personal stories of front-line life—to help sell War Bonds! Names from a famous roster that includes Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Dinah Shore, Clark Gable, Carole Landis, Joe E. Brown, Frances Langford, Lt. Tyrone Power, Al Jolson, Jack Benny, will be there to make this a brilliant "pitch" for War Bond Selling!

Other National Radio Coverage

War Bond Guest Stars will appear on all leading commercial programs during the drive to make a special bond selling appeal, built around their own War Activities in hospitals, the home-front and the war-front!

Slogans and Stunts for 6th War Loan

Play Taps for the Japs ★ The Smashing 6th ★ Don't Let Them Down By Letting Up ★ Lend Over Here Till It's Over Over There ★ Smash Them With the 6th ★ Your Country Is Still At War, Are You? ★ Let's Finish the Job ★ Here We Go To Tokyo ★ Let's Go for the Knockout Blow ★ A Bond Is a Weapon to Beat the Japs, Use It ★ Buy That Extra Bond ★ Buy a Round-Trip Ticket to Tokyo for One of Our Soldiers. Keep On Buying While Our Boys Are Dying ★ The Japs Started It, Let's Finish It ★ It Costs Plenty to Kill a Jap ★ Invest in the Next Raid on Tokyo ★ War Bonds—The Safest Investment in the World ★ You Backed the Invasion, Now Speed Victory ★ What Did You Do Today to Help Shorten the War?

Lobby Displays Sell Bonds—Here Are 5

1. PARTICIPATION GAG. Have a compo board cut-out of a Jap with the head in profile on a swivel. Every bond buyer "May slap the Jap and keep his head spinning. . . . It's easy—effective—and will do a job for any exhibitor, especially with younger patrons.

2. CAPTURED WEAPONS. Through War Finance Committeemen or local military officials, obtain weapons of captured soldiers or U. S. weapons and display them in the lobby. Cards with the price of each U. S. weapon could be affixed to drive home the point as to what bonds are being used for. Enemy weapons could have cards, giving the approximate cost of silencing each one.

3. BOYS IN SERVICE LOBBY BOARD. From local newspapers obtain clips about boys in the service. Change them from day to day. Relatives identifying them would be given a pass to the theatre upon applying at the theatre bond booth. Slug the top of the board with this message: *"This Is What They Are Doing—What Did You Do Today?"*

4. HANG HITLER AND HIROHITO—Tested and found productive. Bond buyers slip the noose around dummies of Hitler and Hirohito and hang them up. Let the bond buyer do the whole job—it is more satisfying. Then take the dummy down for the next bond buyer.

5. DARTBOARD. Paint a Jap flag on a dart board. Award three darts for every bond. Stimulate competition on the highest score. This simple stunt will produce sales.

6. FREE PHOTO EXHIBIT. The Graflex Corp. of Rochester, N. Y., has made available to the motion picture industry 800 sets of glossy prints of outstanding war photos covering all five branches of the service. The display consists of 25 glossy prints, 8 x 10, mounted on mats, 16 x 20, for a lobby display. Included in the kit are mats, publicity stories, radio spot announcements and tie-up ideas. There are only 800 sets available and first come, first served. So write for this display material immediately for the Sixth Drive.

Bonds Bought in Names Of Service Mothers

THIS PROMOTION has produced bond sales for many exhibitors and is an excellent way of mobilizing women's groups to help sell bonds.

HONOR MOTHERS OF MEN in service by creating a competitive interest in selling bonds in the names of their sons. This can be sponsored by women's patriotic groups, Navy mothers, Legion auxiliaries, Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliaries, etc.

EACH ORGANIZATION SELECTS a representative mother who is either the oldest mother with sons in the service, or the mother with the greatest number of sons in the service. The representative mother so selected and the progress of the sale is publicized by newspaper and radio tie-ups.

Window Tieups Assist Theatre Bond Drives

1. MILITARY DISPLAYS: By arrangement with the nearest military establishment, weapons and clothing of various sorts can be set up for Sixth War Loan display. These displays, particularly of captured enemy equipment, have always created interest. Best types of stores for these displays are sporting goods shops, department stores and haberdasheries.

2. POST-WAR WINDOW: Displays showing what war bonds will buy in the future, articles not obtainable now. Point up the valuable post-war security feature of buying bonds now.

Oldest Merchant a Hub For Drive 'Kick-off'

HERE'S A STUNT that has already been used in the Sixth War Loan drive and produced results. From Milwaukee comes word of the stunt for a 'kickoff' meeting. This is the way it works:

SELECT THE OLDEST independent merchant in the community and have him appointed honorary chairman of the Sixth War Loan for the region. Select a date for a dinner to honor this merchant and to start the Bond Drive. Committees should be appointed to cover all possible bond-selling outlets and the theatre should be made the pivot of activity.

WHEREVER POSSIBLE, try to have the oldest exhibitor in town appointed to this honorary position. Get speakers who knew the oldest merchant 'when' and build a nostalgic program around this theme. Use the occasion of the dinner to announce plans for the Sixth War Loan drive.

Combat Paintings Free To Theatres for 6th

A SIXTH WAR LOAN DISPLAY of eight color prints being offered to theatres by the War Activities Committee of the industry has been reproduced from combat paintings by servicemen artists. Each set of eight 19x24 inch color prints is accompanied by two posters, featuring the slogan "SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN," and showing a bomb blasting a Jap flag.

THIS DISPLAY will be mailed without charge to all theatres signifying their intentions of displaying the prints during the Sixth War Loan. The individual prints will make prizes for theatre patrons who purchase War Bonds under any contest or award plan the theatre management may wish to set up. Requests for the display should be addressed to: Theatre Display Dept., Electric Boat Co., New York.

Industry 6th Drive Leaders

RECOGNIZING the special necessity of absolute success in the Government's aim to sell $14,000,000,000 of war bonds in the Sixth War Loan campaign, Nov. 26-Dec. 16, the industry has expanded its national committee, stressing additional exhibitor leadership. This pictorial presentation salutes the motion picture industry's national committee for the sixth campaign.

Harry Brandt
National Chairman

W. F. Crockett
Vice-Chairman

John Hertz, Jr.
Publicity-Ad Director

Max Cohen
Special Events Chairman

Neil Agnew
Eastern Industry Sales

Henry Ginsberg
Western Industry Sales

L. C. Griffith
Honorary Chairman

Jay Emanuel
Campaign Coordinator

Jack Kirsch
Co-Chairman

Si Fabian
Honorary Chairman

Charles Skouras
Honorary Chairman

R. J. O'Donnell
Honorary Chairman

Hugh Bruen
Co-Chairman

Ned E. Depinet
Distributor Chairman

Tom Baily
Treasury Consultant

Fred Wehrenberg
Co-Chairman

Al Steffes
Co-Chairman

Henry Reeve
Co-Chairman

John Rugar
Co-Chairman

Leo Wolcott
Co-Chairman

Nathan Yamins
Co-Chairman

Leon Bamberger
Asst. Distributor Chairman

BUY THAT "EXTRA BOND"
Smash 'em with the SIXTH!

64 Exhibitors 'Accept the 6th Challenge'

MANY a veteran of all five previous war loans will again serve for the Sixth Drive, and all are already laying the groundwork for the industry's participation in the campaign, which formally begins on Nov. 20 and runs through Dec. 16. Sixty-five exhibitor state co-chairmen represent the 'hub' upon which the industry's 'E' bond selling effort in the field will revolve. They follow:

ALABAMA, R. M. Kennedy, Alabama Theatre, Birmingham.
ARIZONA, Harry Nace, Orpheum Theatre Bldg., Phoenix.
ARKANSAS, Claude Mundo, Rex Thetre, Little Rock.
CALIFORNIA (Southern) Gus Metzger, 536 South Broadway, Los Angeles; (Northern) Rotus Harvey, 291 Golden Gate, San Francisco.
COLORADO, Mark Alling, Orpheum Theatre, Denver; R. J. Garland, Fox Intermountain Theatres, Denver.
CONNECTICUT, Harry Shaw, Poli Building, New Haven.
DELAWARE, A. Joseph Defiore, Park Theatre, Wilmington.
FLORIDA, J. L. Cartwright, Tampa Theatre Building, Tampa.
GEORGIA, J. H. Thompson, M.P.T.O. of Georgia, Hawkinsville.
IDAHO, Al Hager, Rex Theatre, Idaho Falls.
ILLINOIS, Ed Zorn, Crescent Falls, Pontiac. Ed Silverman, Essaness Theatres, 540 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago.
INDIANA, Don Rossiter, 444 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis.
IOWA, A. H. Blank, Paramount Bldg., Des Moines.
KANSAS, Howard Jameyson, Wichita.
KENTUCKY, Lew Hensler, Ben Ali Theatre, Lexington.
LOUISIANA, E. V. Richards, 608 Canal St., New Orleans.
MAINE, Connie Russell, Bangor.
MARYLAND, Frank Durkee, Arcade Theatre Bldg., Baltimore.
MASSACHUSETTS, Sam Pinanski, M. & P. Theatres, 60 Scollay Sq., Boston.
MICHIGAN, Ray Branch, A.T.O. of Michigan, 607 Fox Bldg., Detroit.
MINNESOTA, Henry Greene, Lake Amusement Co., 818 National Bldg., Minneapolis; Harold Kaplan, St. Louis Park Theatre, St. Louis Park.
MISSISSIPPI, Burgess Waltmon, Princess Theatre, Columbus; Arthur Lehmann, Booker T. Theatres, Jackson.
MISSOURI (Eastern), Rex Barrett, Columbia; Marty Burnett, Loew's state Theatre, St. Louis; (Western) Elmer Rhoden, Fox Midwest Theatres, 3706 Broadway, Kansas City.
MONTANA, J. A. English, Washoe Theatre Building, Anaconda.
NEBRASKA, William Miskell, Orpheum Theatre Building, Omaha; Sam Epstein, Epstein Amusement Co., Omaha.
NEVADA, N. Dow Thompson, T. & D. Entertainment, Reno.
NEW HAMPSHIRE, Ed Fahey, 1118 Elm St., Manchester.
NEW JERSEY (Northern), Harry

(Continued on page 20)

30% of Quota from New York State

THE New York State quota for the Sixth War Loan, which begins Nov. 20, has been set at $4,226,000,000 and the goal for New York City at $3,667,500,000.

The quota for the state represents more than 30 per cent of the national goal of $14,000,000,000. It is $575,000,000 less than the state quota of $4,801,000,000 in the Fifth War Loan last Summer, when state purchases hit $5,933,781,391.

Distributor Chairmen Organized for the 6th

DISTRIBUTION'S 32 territories are the basis of the distributors' geographic operations for the Sixth War Loan, each in charge of an exchangeman, with those areas, in turn, carved into 10 districts, each supervised by a district manager. National distribution chairman is Ned Depinet, with Leon Bamberger as assistant. The setup is the regular distributors' division of the War Activities Committee which works hand-in-hand with exhibitor state chairmen in all drives. Personnel of the 32 territories follow:

Metropolitan New York
District Chairman, Jack Bowen, Loew's, New York.
NEW YORK—Ralph Pielow, Loew's, 630 9th Ave.
NEW JERSEY—B. Abner, Loew's, 630 9th Ave., New York.

Northeast
District Chairman, A. M. Kane, Paramount, 58 Berkeley St., Boston.
BOSTON—Ed. W. Ruff, Paramount, Boston.
NEW HAVEN—John Moore, Paramount, 82-88 State St.
ALBANY—C. G. Eastman, Paramount, 1044 Broadway.
BUFFALO—M. A. Brown, Paramount, 464 Franklin St.

East
District Chairman, R. J. Folliard, RKO, 250 N. 13th St., Philadelphia.
PHILADELPHIA — Sam Gross, 20th Century-Fox, 302 N. 13th St.
PITTSBURGH, M. E. Lefko, RKO, 1623 Blvd. of Allies.
WASHINGTON—J. B. Brecheen, RKO, 203 Eye St., N. W.

East Central
District Chairman, Jack Goldhar, United Artists, 2310 Cass Ave., Detroit.
CINCINNATI—Harris Dudelson, United Artists, 1634 Central Pkway Blvd.
CLEVELAND—Maury Orr, United Artists, 1745 East 23rd St.
DETROIT—M. Dudelson, United Artists, 2310 Cass Ave.

Southeast
District Chairman, Paul Wilson, 20th Century-Fox, 197 Walton St., Atlanta.
ATLANTA—Fred R. Dodson, 20th Century-Fox.
CHARLOTTE—John E. Holston, 20th Century-Fox, 308 S. Church St.
NEW ORLEANS—E. V. Landaiche, 20th Century-Fox, 200 S. Liberty St.

Southwest
District Chairman, J. B. Underwood, Columbia, 1818 Wood St., Dallas.
MEMPHIS—J. J. Rogers, Columbia, 162 Vance Ave.
OKLAHOMA CITY—C. A. Gibbs, Columbia, 702 W. Grand Ave.

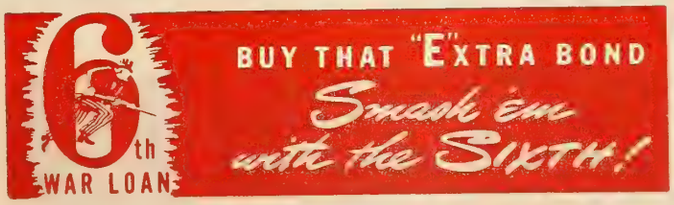
Midwest
District Chairman, Sam Shirley, Loew's, 1307 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago.
CHICAGO—W. E. Banford, Loew's, 1307 S. Wabash Ave.
MINNEAPOLIS — W. H. Workman, Loew's, 1104 Currie Ave.
MILWAUKEE—Don Woods, Warners, 1022 N. 8th St.

Indiana-Kentucky
INDIANAPOLIS — Claude McKean, Warners, 120 W. Michigan.

Prairie District
District Chairman, J. E. Garrison, Universal, 214-6 W. 18th St., Kansas City.
ST. LOUIS—Harry Hynes, Universal, 3320 Olive St.
KANSAS CITY—Jack Langan, Universal, 214-6 W. 18th St.
DES MOINES—Lou Levy, Universal, 1005 High St.
OMAHA—H. B. Johnson, Universal, 1524 Davenport St.

Rocky Mountain
District Chairman, J. Herbert McIntyre, RKO, 1980 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles.
DENVER—Tom Bailey, RKO, P.O. Box No. 1649.
SALT LAKE CITY—G. Davison, RKO, 204 E. 1st St. South.

West Coast
District Chairman, Henry Herbel, Warners, 2025 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles.
SEATTLE—Vete Stewart, Warners, 2405 Second Ave.
PORTLAND—Al Oxtoby, Warners, 935 N. W. 19th Ave.
SAN FRANCISCO—Al Shmitken, Warners, 215 Golden Gate Ave.
LOS ANGELES—Fred Greenberg, Warners, 2025 S. Vermont Ave.



63 Publicists Promoting 'E' Bond Sales

ALREADY in the field in advance of the actual start of selling "E" bonds for Uncle Sam's Sixth War loan drive are 63 state chairmen or co-chairmen in exhibition promotional activities, helping to get the money for the materials needed to Beat the Japs! They are being directed by John Hertz, Jr., national publicity chairman for the industry's participation in the campaign, which will get under way Nov. 20 and run through Dec. 16. The state publicity chairmen follow:

ALABAMA — Bill Wolfson, Wilby-Kincey Theatres, Montgomery.
ARIZONA—A. G. Pickett, Orpheum Theatre Bldg., Phoenix.
ARKANSAS—Sam Kirby, Malco Bldg., North Little Rock.
CALIFORNIA — (Southern) Seymour Piser, Fox West Coast Theatres, 1609 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, (co-chairman) Mort Goodman, Warner Brothers, 6433 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood; (Northern) Fay Reeder, Fox West Coast Theatres, 988 Market St., San Francisco.
COLORADO — Margaret Goyette, Denham Theatre, Denver.
CONNECTICUT — Lou Brown, Loew's Poli Theatre, New Haven.
DELAWARE—Edgar J. Doob, Loew's Aldine Theatre, Wilmington.
FLORIDA—J. L. Cartwright, Tampa Theatre, Tampa.
GEORGIA—Spence Pierce, 20th Century-Fox Exchange, Atlanta.
IDAHO (Southeastern)—C. A. Orr, Opera House, Grace; (Northern) John Trewela, Wilma Theatre, Coeur D'Alene.
ILLINOIS—Bill Bishop, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 1307 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago; Larry Stein, Warner Bros., 1307 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago.
INDIANA—Ken Collins, Circle Theatre, Indianapolis.
IOWA—Dale McFarland, Paramount Bldg., Des Moines.
KANSAS—Woody Barritt, Fox Wichita Theatres, Wichita.
KENTUCKY—Lew Hensler, Ben Ali Theatre, Lexington.
LOUISIANA—Maurice F. Barr, 608 Canal St., New Orleans.
MAINE—C. J. Russell, Sr., Bijou Theatre, Bangor.

(Continued on page 20)

6th War Bonds as Christmas Gifts

A NATIONAL radio tieup directing attention to theatres on Dec. 7 is in the making, with Hollywood cooperation to aid exhibitors sell the idea of buying bonds for Christmas gifts. As in the Fifth War Loan drive the Treasury is not interested in the tremendous total only, but more so in the number of 'E' Bonds sold. Exhibitors are also asked to try to increase the number of bond sales.

64 Leaders in Exhibition

(Continued from page 19)

Lowenstein, 24 Walnut St., Newark; Frank Damis, Warner Bros., 17 Academy St., Newark; (Southern) 1, Epstein, Atlantic Theatres, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa.

NEW MEXICO, Geo. Tucker, Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque.

NEW YORK (Metropolitan), Malcolm Kingsberg, RKO, 1270 6th Ave., New York; (Upstate) C. J. Latta, Warner Bros., Pearl St., Albany.

NORTH CAROLINA, Geo. T. Carpenter, Colonial Theatre, Valdese.

NORTH DAKOTA, Mike Cooper, Forx Theatre, Grank Forks; Ed Krauss, Fargo Theatre, Fargo.

OHIO, Chas. Raymond, Cleveland.

OKLAHOMA, Ralph Talbot, Tulsa.

OREGON, O. J. Miller, Portland.

PENNSYLVANIA (Eastern), Ben Fertel, Colonial Theatre, Philadelphia; (Western), M. A. Silver, Warner Bros., Clark Building, Pittsburgh.

RHODE ISLAND, Martin Toohey, Leroy Theatre, Pawtucket.

SOUTH CAROLINA, Warren Irwin, Palmetto Theatre, Columbia.

SOUTH DAKOTA, Fred Larkin, State Theatre, Sioux Falls.

TENNESSEE (Eastern), E. W. Street, Tennessee Theatre, Knoxville; (Western), Kermit Stengal, Crescent Amusement Co., Nashville.

TEXAS, John Q. Adams, Majestic Theatre Building, Dallas; Phil Isley, 2000½ Jackson, Dallas.

UTAH, Hall Baetz, Salt Lake City.

VERMONT, Frank Venett, Rutland.

VIRGINIA, Morton G. Thalheimer, Neighborhood Theatre, Richmond.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Al Lichtman, Lincoln Theatre, 1212 U St., N.W.

WASHINGTON, Frank Newman, Sr., Evergreen Theatres, Seattle.

WEST VIRGINIA, Sol Hyman, Huntington.

WISCONSIN, Harold Fitzgerald, 1324 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee.

WYOMING, Thomas Knight, Riverton.

Accessories Set for 6th

Military and motion picture 'stars' will sell war bonds to the public during the Sixth War Loan campaign by way of two trailers produced in Hollywood. Jennifer Jones stars in "The Fighting Generation," made by David Selznick, directed by Alfred Hitchcock from a script by Stephen Longstreet. It will be in National Screen Exchanges around Nov. 6. Paramount is filming Eddie Bracken in the second, which was written by Robert Lees and Fred Ringold, directed by Joseph Youngerman and produced by William Miekeljohn.

Through the cooperation of the WAC newsreel division, under chairman Walton Ament, three different newsreel bulletins will be exhibited, the first being on the anniversary of the Marine Corps, the second starring Lt. Tyrone Power and the third a talk by Admiral Chester Nimitz.

The trailers are to be distributed as a WAC effort by National Screen Service.

In addition, all exhibitors will receive a kit containing two 40x60's, two one sheets, and a 20-page press book.

Distributors Will Aid Junior Bond Matinees

CHILDREN'S Junior Bond Premieres were really overlooked until the Fifth War Loan, when 1,131 were held, turning a slow morning into 1,131 housefuls of bond sales. They do not cut into your bond events. Every distributor in the industry has agreed to cooperate in making the Children's Junior Bond Premieres an outstanding sales medium.

In a statement to all exhibitors, yesterday, the industry's national Sixth War Loan committee declared: "Civic enterprise is fostered in every school in this country; get young organizations behind this and spot the juvenile event with announcements wherever youngsters congregate. Slug ads and post a program in the theatre lobby; work with boy or girl scouts."

Some of the ways an exhibitor can make the plan work: Let the children know about it. Hit the places they congregate and bill the day big. Have spot announcements on local stations in early evening, and daily teasers in newspapers. Have a contest to select the Bond 'King' and 'Queen.' Tell school officials about the plan. Organize team competition: Seniors vs. Juniors, etc. Promote awards. Try the 'Mayor-for-a-Day' stunt. Through the Chamber of Commerce arrange to have the leading bond-seller made Mayor-for-a-Day. Ask Boy and Girl Scouts for their cooperation. Boy Scout troops will not only sell bonds but will distribute throw-aways.

BUY THAT "EXTRA BOND" Smash 'em with the SIXTH!

'MovieDay' on December 7

(Continued from page 3)

said an industry drive statement to theatre owners yesterday. "It helps sell bonds for the USA and promotes good-will for YOU!" it added.

Exhibitors are asked to play up Free Movie Day in all newspaper ads, radio announcements, window displays, posters, emphasizing "See a Free Movie Today . . . By Buying a Bond Today."

In addition to all the normal outlets for a campaign on Free Movie Day, Pearl Harbor Day, patriotic demonstrations, parades and on-stage rallies, can be planned with the cooperation of military and fraternal organizations.

If, because of local conditions, an exhibitor cannot hold Free Movie Day on Dec. 7, he is expected to hold it on another day—but, wherever possible, all are requested to hold it on Dec. 7, because this date will be promoted by a national publicity campaign.

BUY THAT "EXTRA BOND" Smash 'em with the SIXTH!

Bond Shows To Top All

(Continued from page 3)

has a general bond committee appointed, it should be contacted, telling them fully of the plans for a Bond Premiere, enlisting their aid in selling tickets.

"Inspect your equipment and make sure your theatre will have a clean, gala appearance for the selected evening. Contact your volunteer workers NOW! Inform the entire staff of the plans for the evening so questions can be answered for all.

"Paper your town with posters advertising the event. Get your publicity stories in work and make an effort for steady 'plugging' through spot announcements on a local radio station. If speakers are available get them out to weekly events, Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.

Exhibitors in towns under 7,500 can have pictures released prior to May 1, and not under contract, without cost.

Pressbook Out Today

JOHN D. HERTZ, JR., national publicity-advertising director for the industry's Sixth War Loan Drive, announced yesterday that the pressbook for the campaign will be mailed to all exhibitors today.

Hertz, describing the book, which has 20 pages, in two and three colors, stated that it was the intention to prepare a pressbook with the primary function of making it as easy as possible for the exhibitor to do a job. The book was arranged as a working manual with all material on bond premieres, such as ads, publicity stories, radio spot announcements, etc., placed in one section of the book, with the same formula followed on Free Movie Day and Children's Premiere.

Hertz paid tribute to all branches for contributions to the pressbook and took the occasion to specifically commend Herb Berg of United Artists, for his 6th Bond work on trade papers; Ted Lloyd of 20th Century-Fox, for his achievements in radio; Tom Waller of Paramount, for his handling of national syndicates; Newcomb F. Thompson of RKO, for handling New York newspapers, and Max E. Youngstein for coordinating the advertising, publicity and exploitation.

BUY THAT "EXTRA BOND" 6th WAR LOAN Smash 'em with the SIXTH!

63 Publicists To Aid 6th

(Continued from page 19)

MARYLAND—Louis E. Schecter, Oldtown Bank Bldg., Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS—Harry Browning, 60 Scollay Sq., Boston.

MICHIGAN—Betty Smith, Fox Theatre, Detroit.

MINNESOTA—Norman Pyle, M-G-M, Minneapolis.

MISSISSIPPI — Burgess Waltmon, Princess Theatre, Columbus.

MISSOURI—(Eastern) M. L. Plessiver, Fox Theatre, 527 N. Grand St., St. Louis; Erv Waterstreet, 3010 Olive St, St. Louis; Carl Post, 3304 Olive St., St. Louis; (Western) Jerry Zigmond, Newman Theatre, Kansas City.

MONTANA — Jack Edwards, Marlow Theatre, Helena.

NEBRASKA—Ted Emerson, care Wm. Miskell, Orpheum Bldg., Omaha.

NEVADA—Harry Hunsaker, Granada Theatre, Reno.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—Frank K. Eldridge, Capitol Theatre, Concord.

NEW JERSEY—(Northern) George Kelly, 17 Academy St., Newark; (Southern) Eli M. Orowitz, Savar Amusement Co., Camden.

NEW MEXICO—George Tucker, Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque.

NEW YORK — (Albany) Charles Smakwitz, Warner Theatre, 79 N. Pearl St., Albany; (Buffalo) Charles B. Taylor, Buffalo Theatres, Buffalo; (Metropolitan) Harry Mandell, RKO, New York.

NORTH CAROLINA—Roy L. Smart, 120 East 3rd St., Charlotte.

NORTH DAKOTA—Ed Kraus, Fargo.

OHIO—(Cincinnati area) J. E. Watson, Loew's, 1625 Central Parkway, Cincinnati; (Cleveland area) Charles Deardourff, Loew's, 2346 Payne Ave., Cleveland.

OKLAHOMA—Robert Busch, Uptown Theatre, Oklahoma City.

OREGON—Jack Matlack, Broadway Theatre, Portland.

PENNSYLVANIA—(Eastern) Michael Weiss, 20th Century-Fox, 302 No. 13th St., Philadelphia; (Western) James M. Totman, Pittsburgh.

RHODE ISLAND—Martin Toohey, Leroy Theatre, Pawtucket, R. I.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Sam Suggs, Palmetto Theatre, Columbia.

SOUTH DAKOTA—(East of Missouri River) Cliff Knoll, Mitchell; Walter Hoffman, 1015 Canal Ave. No., Minnesota; (West of Missouri River)—Ken Peters, State Theatre, Pierre.

TENNESSEE—(Eastern) E. M. Street, Tennessee Theatre, Knoxville; (Western) J. R. McEachron, Paramount Theatre, Jackson.

TEXAS—Ray Beall, chairman; Bob Kelly, co-chairman, Inter-State Circuit, 501 Majestic Bldg., Dallas.

UTAH—Helen Garrity, Intermountain Theatres, Salt Lake City.

VERMONT—Eugene C. Keenan, Burns Theatre, Newport.

VIRGINIA—Brock Whitlock, Loew's Theatre, Richmond.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Frank La Falce, Warner Bros., Washington.

WASHINGTON—Vic Gauntlett, Evergreen Theatres, Seattle.

WEST VARGINIA (partial)—Jas. H. Totman, Warner Bros., Clark Bldg., Pittsburgh.

WISCONSIN—William V. Geehan, 1324 W. Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

WYOMING—G. H. Turner, Lusk.

Your First Step!

Uncle Sam needs more

ISSUING AGENTS FOR THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

To become an ~~ISSUING AGENT~~ Get in touch with your War Activities Exhibitor State Chairman immediately! He will tell you how easily it's done!

Your theatre is the *only* place where Bonds can be bought evenings, Sundays and holidays! The public is being told in every way: "BUY BONDS AT YOUR MOVIE THEATRE!"

The folks depend on *YOU* to be an Issuing Agent when they want to buy their War Bonds! Join the ranks of the thousands of other patriotic Issuing Agents in America!

Sponsored by

WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE OF MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

1501 Broadway, New York City

Hold Four Regional Loan Drive Meets

Four different regional meetings were held yesterday by exhibitors in furtherance of the industry's 6th War Loan drive in Detroit, Newark, Louisville and Buffalo. More than 300, representing 500 theatres, attended the Detroit meeting at the Hotel Book-Cadillac. Ray Branch, state exhibitor chairman, announced he would seek to make every theatre in Michigan an issuing agent. National committeemen William F. Crockett, Nathan Yamins, Leon Bamberger, Charles Deardourff and Francis Harmon spoke on bond premieres for theatres and exchanges, children's matinees and 'Free Movie Day,' Dec. 7. Lt. Col. Roswell P. Rosengren, war hero, praised the theatre industry and stated that the industry's greatest challenge is rehabilitation of Germany and Japan by film education. Frank Isbey, chairman of Michigan's War Finance Committee, also spoke.

In Newark, more than 200 exhibitors from Northern New Jersey attended a meeting at the Little Theatre presided over by exhibitor state chairmen Harry Lowenstein and Frank Damis. Other speakers were George Potter, Harry Murphy, George Dembow, Ben Abner, Max E. Youngstein, Adam Adams and George Kelly.

162 at Louisville

Harry Brandt, national chairman; Jack Kirsch, national co-chairman; Ned Depinet, distributor chairman, John Hertz, Jr., publicity chairman; Ed Bobe, Capt. Ray Wild and Lt. Lewis Largey, arrived in Louisville from Cleveland to conduct a meeting of 162 film people at the Kentucky Hotel. A detailed program was set up for Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio and West Virginia. The four states were represented by Lew Hensler, Kentucky; Don Rossiter, Indiana; Charles Raymond, Ohio; Sol Hyman, West Virginia, state chairmen; Claude McKean, Indianapolis; Harris Dudelson, Cincinnati, distributor chairmen, and James Totman, W. Va., Ken Collings, Indiana, and J. E. Watson, Ohio, state publicity chairmen. Freeman Smith, executive director of the Kentucky Association of Exhibitors, was toastmaster.

Mor than 236 theatres pledged 100 per cent cooperation at a meeting in the Statler Hotel, Buffalo. All branches of the women's services were guests.

Kansas City Bomblaster Issued for 6th Push

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 2.—One of the highlights of the 6th War Loan campaign regional meeting held here recently was the issuing a special newspaper, the Kansas City Bomblaster, which was rushed into the banquet room of the Muehlebach Hotel just after the main speaker concluded, and was given to the guests. The paper contained a complete outline of the local meeting, pictures of the national committee, and reproductions of available accessories for putting over effective bond campaigns.

Variety Gives Ambulance

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2. — Local Variety has presented a $3,000 ambulance to the local Health Department. The presentation was made by John Allen, chief barker, and Rudy Berger, chairman of the welfare committee.

Industry in Line in Sixth Drive to Help Beat Japs

(*Continued from page* 1)

Sixth War Loan—admittedly one of the toughest in this country's experience, with showmen again the hub around which millions in bond sales will revolve, aided and abetted, of course, by distribution and production.

From Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau comes to exhibitors an expression of gratification "to learn that we may again count on the full support of motion picture exhibitors during the Sixth War Loan campaign. The record of accomplishment which this group has built up in support of past drives is impressive indeed, and has contributed greatly to the overall record of which we are so proud," he declared.

"The development of War Bond Premieres has added substantially to the value of their assistance as has the willingness of so many of the individual theatres to act as issuing agents for war bonds," he said.

Difficult Task

"The task of raising $14,000,000,000 required during the Sixth War Loan Drive will by no means be an easy one. However, with the knowledge of the loyal support of groups such as motion picture exhibitors we face the task with full confidence," concluded Morgenthau.

The Treasury specifically requests that exhibitors concentrate on more issuing agencies, and more Bond Premieres, Childrens' Matinees, and National Free Movie Day showings, the latter for Dec. 7. Where an exhibitor cannot become an issuing agent, he is requested to arrange to buy bonds to sell to patrons and friends through a theatre issuing agency.

Credit for the sixth drive will include bond sales reported to the Federal Reserve Bank from Nov. 1 to Dec. 31, whereas the Nov. 20 drive is slated to end Dec. 16. This, according to the Treasury, is necessary to give proper credit for bonds sold during the drive by approximately 25,000 issuing agents and thousands of plants now using the payroll deduction system. Bonds sold under the payroll system have been cleared following the date the bonds were sold.

22 on Staff

Serving with national chairman Harry Brandt in this drive are a national staff of 22 (see page 18), 64 state exhibitor chairmen, 63 state publicity chairmen, and 41 distributor chairmen (see page 19), plus countless hundreds on local committees, home office, studio and industry-related groups.

The industry's initial Sixth War Loan efforts got underway with a series of 19 key-city meetings, starting in Los Angeles on Oct. 23 and winding up in New York on Nov. 17 with a big rally. Speaking with national drive leaders at these rallies are three war heroes: Capt. Ray Wild, Lt. Col. Roswell Rosengren and Lt. Lewis Largey.

The drive's nine co-chairmen throughout the country are now securing verified lists of all industry personnel entitled to receive a special "Medal of Honor." Each co-chairman has formed an "Award Committee" consisting of himself, state exhibitor, distributor and publicity chairmen. If an exhibitor is not an issuing agent and desires to receive the medal he can be qualified for the award by guaranteeing to become an issuing agent to one of the award committee members.

The special awards will be available to all persons in the industry who directly render service on behalf of the drive.

The plan for the medals was instituted by Brandt and honorary chairmen S. H. Fabian, L. C. Griffith, Charles Skouras and R. J. O'Donnell.

In an effort to raise at least $54,000,000 extra, Ned E. Depinet, distribution chairman, has urged all distributor chairmen to institute a campaign for extra Projection Room Premieres in all exchanges. During the Fifth War Loan there were only 13 such premieres, selling 1,110 bonds. Depinet said "these premieres accounted for $3,000,000 in extra bonds."

The plan is to sell some important exhibitor, merchant, banker, civic or social leader in each key city to take over one of the Projection Room Premieres and invite his own "guests."

Military Personnel

Procedure for requests for use of military personnel or equipment during the Sixth War Loan campaign was explained yesterday by Tom W. Baily, War Activities Committee drive consultant to the Treasury Department, who said: "Exhibitors desiring to utilize war heroes, military bands, personnel or equipment, should follow a simple but necessary routine. Make the request of the local WAC bond chairman, who in turn will apply to the local War Finance Committee chairman. Requests from the latter will be given proper consideration by the military. This applies to *all* local military cooperation.

The five newsreels will again play an important role in the Sixth War Loan Drive. In addition to maintaining a steady flow of coverage of important bond events, each will feature bulletins playing up screen stars and national heroes in appeals. (See page 20.)

The newsreel chiefs have pledged that Sixth War Loan messages will be tied in with all "stories" whenever possible.

Producer David O. Selznick, director Alfred Hitchcock, Jennifer Jones and Sydney Longstreet, author, have prepared the first of a series of Sixth War Loan Drive trailers, produced in Hollywood under supervision of the War Activities Committee, Hollywood division, with John Flinn, co-ordinator. The trailers will be available to all exhibitors from local National Screen exchanges.

Free Onesheets

All showmen will be serviced with three special one-sheet posters, the first time in any war loan drive that three posters—each plugging the three big "musts" in the campaign—WAR BOND PREMIERES, CHILDREN'S MATINEES and NATIONAL FREE MOVIE DAY—will be available free to exhibitors. The posters will also be available at all NSS exchanges.

A radio program in now being set with its objective "to make the exhibitor's bond job easier." There will be many Coast-to-Coast broadcasts, with outstanding names and personalities on them, paying tribute to the work of the exhibitor in previous drives, and for the time and effort he is devoting to the Sixth. It will tell the millions to buy their bonds at their favorite theatres.

There will be a major Coast-to-Coast broadcast over several networks on the evening of Nov. 20, the 'kick-off' day of the drive, and a major broadcast on Dec. 6, eve of Free Movie Day. Records will be available for use in theatres by exhibitors. These will feature songs and short announcements by stars, asking patrons to buy bonds.

"There has been a great tendency on the part of some people to believe that this war with Japan will be a pushover," warned distribution chairman Depinet. "Let me right now dispel that assumption, based on verified military reports.

"Faced with the Sixth War Loan drive in which we *will* raise more than our share of the nation's $14,000,000,000, I have gone on record to national chairman Brandt with assurances of the exhaustless efforts of every member of the distributors division which embraces all district, branch managers, salesmen and field representatives."

"Based on both the work, enthusiasm and cooperation already demonstrated by the trade, this Sixth War Loan Drive will go over the top—and with plenty to spare," declared Brandt yesterday.

Insured for Storm, Ocean Wrecks House

Louis Bracca's Sea Island Theatre at Sea Island, N. J., had its 850-seat orchestra floor, stage, screen and organ washed out in the September hurricane, but Bracca didn't worry too much at the time. He had hurricane insurance.

Now the insurance Company is contending it was the sea, not the hurricane, that caused the damage. Bracca's insurance does not cover damage to the theatre from the ocean.

Wakoff Buying for Five N. J. Theatres

Arthur Wakoff, for more than 10 years film buyer and booker for the Walter Reade circuit, has incorporated under the name of the Metropolitan Booking Office here, and has established a new buying service for independent exhibitors served out of New York-New Jersey exchanges. Theatres Wakoff will represent include the Ditmas and Crescent of Perth Amboy, N. J., the Strand and Lyric of Summit, and the Madison, of Madison.

Wakoff has closed deals for product for these theatres with M-G-M, Columbia, Universal and 20th-Fox, and is negotiating with Paramount and United Artists.

Wright Named MOI Crown Film Head

Basil Wright has been named to succeed Jack Holmes as producer in charge of the Crown Film Unit at Pinewood studios, London, of the British Ministry of Information, the MOI announced here this week. Holmes is leaving for the East on a special mission for the British government. The studio is engaged in documentary production.

6th WAR LOAN

The **Most** You Can Do

Is

The **Least** You Can Do

To

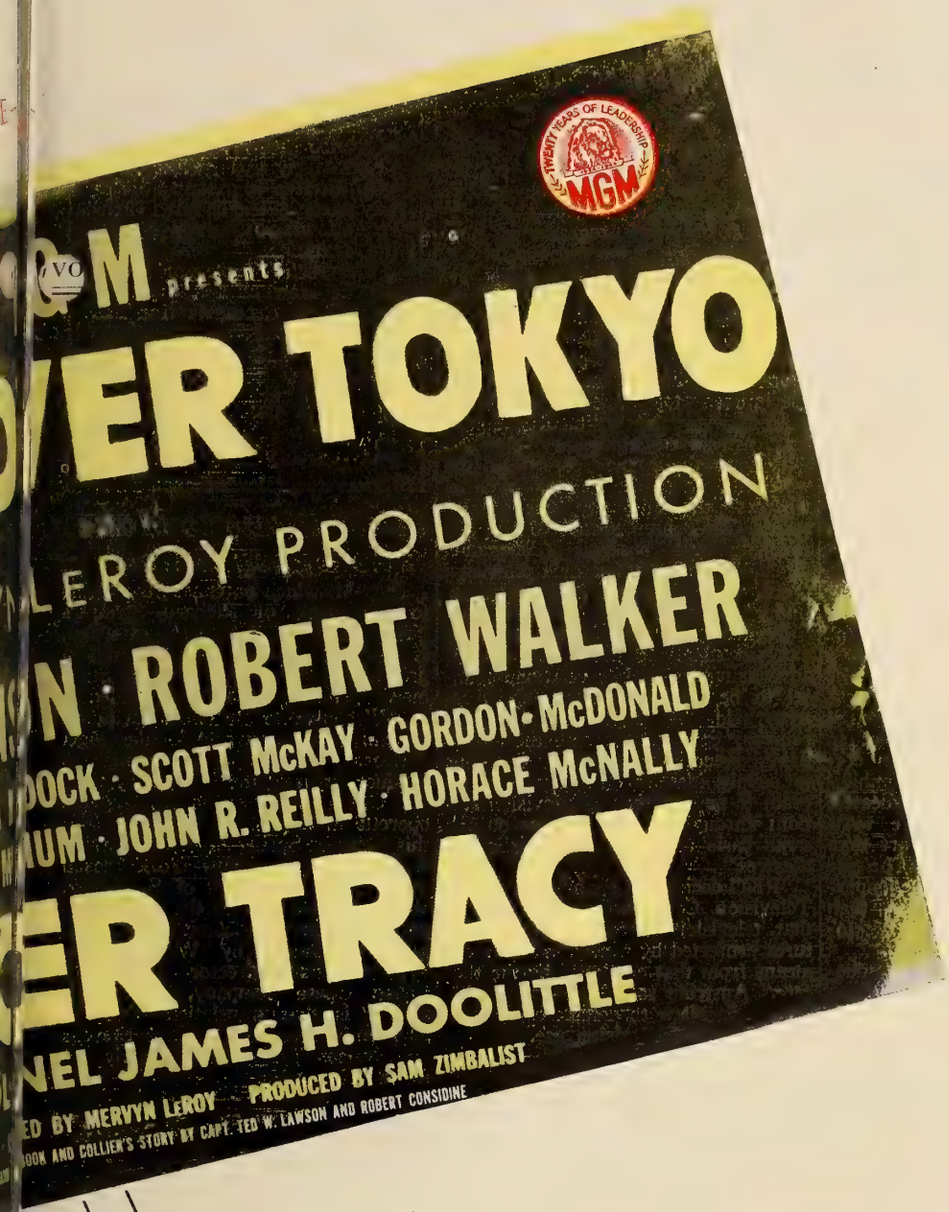
Hasten That Great Day.....

"WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN"

PRC

Says VAN JOHNSON:
"How come you're so cute?"
Says his bride (Phyllis Thaxter)
"I had to be—to get such a good-looking fellow."

THE LOVE STORY BEHIND THE GREATEST STORY OF OUR TIME—



LEO IS FIRST AGAIN!

Announcing with pride . . .

THE FIRST BOND PREMIERE

in the Nation to inaugurate the new

SIXTH WAR LOAN

★

NOV. 15th—CAPITOL THEATRE, N. Y.

War Bond Premiere of

M-G-M's Great Motion Picture

"THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO"

★

Emanuel Outlines Way to Become An Issuing Agent

Following a flood of requests from showmen throughout the country on how they may become issuing agents, Jay Emanuel, campaign co-ordinator for the Sixth War Loan Drive, has outlined the proper procedure, as follows:

Exhibitors first must apply to the Federal Reserve Bank in the area in which the theatre is located and have a letter of recommendation from the chairman of his local War Activities Committee. In the letter of application, state name of company, whether a partnership, corporation or individual; who is authorized to sign forms requesting blank bonds and who will make payment to the Federal Reserve, once every 30 days in accordance with their custom.

"The procedure," said Emanuel, "is still further simplified if you will indicate in your first letter of application the amount of $25, $50, $75, $100 and $1,000 bonds you will require. The Federal Reserve Bank will issue to you the amount requested plus a stamp with a date and the name of the issuing agency applying for this privilege. Therefore, when the exhibitor receives the bonds, and sells them, the duplicate parts are retained for his file; another set sent to the Treasury Department with your check on the monthly payment basis. The Treasury Department issues these blank bonds without advance payment.

Typewriter Essential

"It is necessary for a theatre to have a typewriter on which to type the name or names of the purchasers of the bonds. There are no complicated returns to make out. There are over 5,000 theatres acting as issuing agents for the Treasury, and I have yet to hear of any theatre losing any money in handling these bonds. Only a responsible person should be put in charge of issuing them and seeing to it that the money is returned to the theatre owner the same as you would do with tickets or anything else you handle in this fashion.

"If the name of your theatre is used, naturally the special stamp as the issuing agent contains that name. This acts as a goodwill builder between you and your customers for years to come. Theatre issuing agencies get credit only for 'E' bonds. If you apply to a bank and act as a sub-issuing agency, your industry does not get credit for the sale of any of these bonds.

"It has been suggested that if you find it impractical to become an issuing agency, you purchase any bonds for yourself, staff or patrons through a competing theatre which is an issuing agency so that your industry can get credit, which is highly important in the final analysis. Every business is crowing about how many bonds they have sold during the various loans, and it is only proper that every exhibitor should do all in his power to help build up the record of the Motion Picture Division," Emanuel concluded.

New Trans-Lux Name

The corporate name of Trans-Lux Movies Corp. has been changed to Trans-Lux Theatres Corp., the company announced yesterday.

Video Will Lean Heavily on Film Methods: Austrian

While television is generally regarded as primarily the concern of radio broadcasting companies, it is most definitely a field which can be efficiently serviced by the motion picture industry, Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice-president of the RKO Television Corp., told members of the Publicity Club of New York at a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Belmont Plaza here yesterday.

"The motion picture producer has over 50 years' experience in the making of visual entertainment for mass audiences," Austrian said in discussing the advent of television and its relation to present day motion picture production and radio program transmission. He stressed the fact that the technique of Hollywood film producing will be a vital factor in establishing the quality and type of selected material.

Austrian believes that there will be no competition between motion picture entertainment and television. "The most suitable type of television programs as they are evolved through experience, will be far different in character from the feature film created by Hollywood for theatre exhibition," Austrian said. He indicated, however, that motion picture techniques will play a greater part than existing radio techniques. "The use of film will be infinitely more important in television broadcasting than the electrical transcription disc is today in radio," he predicted.

Citing the estimated cost of producing live television programs in studios, Austrian said, "I do not believe that film programs for television in order to be entertaining and good, necessarily have to be expensive beyond reason." He contrasted the cost of some radio programs with the probable cost of video programs on film.

Austrian does not contend that the use of films for television programs precludes the use of "live" sports events, spot news and similar unstaged and unrehearsed events for video.

In pointing out that public relations counsel and advertising agencies can use filmed television programs in bringing their messages before the public, Austrian explained that television will open the home screens of the world to the public relations counsel whereas the majority of theatre screens have been closed to the advertising and business propaganda films. "Public relations via television opens up a vast new field of opportunity," he said.

Regarding the role of the film company in supplying film programs for advertising and public relations counsel to be used for telecasting, Austrian said, "A large motion picture company can arrange with the advertising agency for whom it functions to supply identical prints of a program to any number of television stations throughout the country on the same basis as prints are supplied to theatres."

"RKO decided to establish the RKO Television Corp. because it believes that television is really talking pictures projected by a new and different means from that employed by the theatre," Austrian said in explaining his company's plans to commercially produce films for television use.

Six Applications for Video in Washington

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—Six applications for postwar television stations in the national capital have been filed with the Federal Communications Commission during the past year, it was disclosed today.

Two of the applications were filed by local radio broadcasters: the Capital Broadcasting Co., owner of station WWDC, and the Bamberger Broadcasting Co. of Newark, N. J., which services Washington through Mutual station WOL. The other applications came from the Philco Radio and Television Corp., Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, National Broadcasting Co., and Mrs. Eleanor Patterson, publisher of the *Washington Times-Herald.*

Green Hopeful of Strike Solution

(*Continued from page* 1)

quest for a quick settlement. If the AFL is successful, that will end the proceedings, but if its efforts prove unavailing the matter will have to go back to the board, which then would go through the regular process of hearing the case and making a formal decision. The fight had resulted in a studio walkout which ended three weeks ago.

Peck Agency in Video

The Peck Advertising Agency, Inc., here, has established an experimental television department, headed by Arthur Sinsheimer.

Fly Resigns from FCC As of Nov. 15

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—Chairman James Lawrence Fly of the Federal Communications Commission announced today that he will retire from Government service Nov. 15 to engage in the private practice of law in New York and it was reported he also would join the business enterprises of William Benton, advertising man, who is interested in an advertising-free audience-financed radio service proposed by Joseph L. Weiner of New York, former director of civilian supply for the War Production Board.

An Administration "clean-up man," Fly, then general counsel of the Tennessee Valley Authority, was appointed to the Commission in September, 1939, succeeding Frank R. McNinch as chairman.

In his five years with the Commission, Fly has been involved in a number of stormy controversies with members of the Commission, the broadcasting industry, and Congress.

Pending the appointment of a successor, it is probable that Commissioner Paul A. Walker, ranking Democratic member, will serve as acting chairman. Paul A. Porter, Democratic National Committee publicity director, has been mentioned prominently as Fly's probable successor.

Hollywood Papers Pullease Copy

"Life With Father" will pass its five-year milestone on Broadway, Nov. 7. In observance of the occasion, approximately 600 guests have been invited to attend a birthday party at the Empire Theatre following tomorrow night's performance.

The Oscar Serlin production of the Howard Lindsay-Russel Crouse dramatization has grossed to date $7,753,000 from the New York and road companies. More than 5,000,000 persons have seen the play and fifth-year business is exceeding that of the third and fourth years.

MGM Plans to Make 'The Gypsy Baron'

M-G-M, which purchased the rights to the music of Richard Strauss's "The Gypsy Baron," three years ago, is reported ready to place the film in production in the late Spring or Summer. The operetta, with "Fledermaus," constitute the two most popular works Strauss wrote for the stage.

Reasons behind the present plan to produce, are that the N. Y. City Center Opera Company is touring the operetta in English in 40 major cities this Fall and Spring as well as playing it in its regular New York season under the management of S. Hurok. While Hurok was on the Coast this past Summer, he submitted the English translation by William Von Wymetal, stage director of the City Center Opera Company, to M-G-M, and it is that translation which is apparently being used. Rise Stevens and Nelson Eddy are reputedly set for starring roles.

Boyd Will Be Named Number 1 Cowboy

(*Continued from page* 1)

named the best Western picture of the year; Robert Tansey the best director; Elliott's "Horse Thunder," the best horse picture; "Pistol Packing Mamma," the best Western song; and Spade Cooley's band, the best Western musical aggregation. The awards are based on a poll conducted among Southern California theatregoers. The Award Association directors will give Republic producer William O'Sullivan a special award for maintaining a high standard in Western production.

Stoltz Buys Theatre

Arnold Stoltz, formerly in charge of special events for 20th Century-Fox, has purchased a partnership in the New Park Theatre at Woonsocket, R. I., from Arthur I. Darman, who retains a half interest. Stoltz was a winner of the 'Silver Award' in the Motion Picture Herald's Martin Quigley 1941 contest for showmanship.

Harry Weiss Shifted

CLEVELAND, Nov. 2.—Harry Weiss, recently appointed 20th Century-Fox exploitation representative here, has been transferred to New York. He is succeeded here by Sid Zins, formerly with the Columbia exploitation staff in this area.

A. W. Smith Called In Schine Defense

(Continued from page 1)

Buffalo at that time, accompanied him on visits to the Strand. "We asked him what he was interested in and he said first run," testified Rowell. "We told him we had none and that we had an established first run contract."

Under direct examination by Edward F. McClennen, Schine counsel, Rowell told of Wallace's being denied second and third run product for the same reason.

Finally, according to Rowell, Wallace said he was "interested in anything we had." Rowell said Wallace "had no definite policy under which his theatre was to be operated." At a later meeting, Rowell testified, Wallace was offered a list of "older top grossing pictures" and "second and third propositions," for product.

Earlier, J. Myer Schine completed his testimony under cross-examination by Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice. Wright questioned him concerning the various Schine theatre property acquisitions and the amount of money invested in them by the circuit. When Wright confronted him with various answers to Government interrogations concerning acquisitions, Schine asserted he had never seen them.

RKO-Warner Deal Set

RKO has closed a deal with Warner Theatres on "Casanova Brown" and "The Princess and the Pirate." Both have been made available for immediate dating in all houses.

Companies Setting 3 More Exchange Pleas

Film company exchange operations heads and representatives of the IATSE met here yesterday to consider applications which the film exchange service employe locals in Salt Lake City, Memphis and Butte will file with the Regional War Labor Board in their areas for approval of a 10 per cent wage increase for exchange service workers. Similar applications have either been filed or are being prepared for approval by the film companies for filing in all exchange cities. The application of the Seattle local already has been approved by the RWLB.

The next meeting on these applications will be held here on Monday.

RKO, Managers Pact Set For Mediation

The New York State Board of Mediation has set a hearing for Nov. 8 here on the contract dispute between RKO and Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistants in the 40 RKO theatres in the Metropolitan area.

Contract negotiations were broken off between RKO and the Guild last Tuesday when RKO offered $75 a week for managers and $37.50 for assistant managers, while the Guild demanded $115 for managers and $75 for assistants.

Reeling Promoted

CHICAGO, Nov. 2.—G. Hays Reeling has been named Western advertising manager of Fawcett Publications. He has been with Fawcett for 15 years.

Election News to Oust Theatre Ads

M-G-M may be the only film company whose advertising will be carried in the New York *Herald-Tribune* on Nov. 8. All amusement advertising is to be eliminated from that issue, except for the quarter of an inch strips at the bottom of page one, which M-G-M has bought to advertise the premiere of "30 Seconds Over Tokyo" at the Capitol on Nov. 13, and to "Kismet" at the Astor.

Paper is eliminating the regular amusement advertising to increase available space in that issue for the publication of election and war news.

Sees Larger Market In Latin America

MEXICO CITY, Nov.2.—Sam Seidelman, United Artists' general manager in Argentina and supervisor of that company's entire Latin American territory, declared here recently that the market for American films in Latin American is increasing, despite competition from Mexican and other films. Seidelman, who stopped here en route from Hollywood to Buenos Aires, also stated that American compaines are concentrating on improving themes and treatment of films dealing with Latin America in an attempt to cement friendly relations among nations of the Western hemisphere.

Election Returns in Chicago Houses

CHICAGO, Nov. 2.—To stimulate election night business, most circuits and independent theatres here have made arrangements to announce periodic election results on Tuesday as soon as they become available.

The Balaban and Katz circuit has made a tie-up with the Blue Network to relay the radio election flashes to all of their theatre audiences a number of times during the night. The managers will install radios in their offices to take down the vital results broadcast.

Phila. Theatres to Give Election News

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 2.—Stanley-Warner theatres have announced that, through the facilities of CBS World News, courtesy of radio station WCAU, election returns will be announced periodically during all shows on Nov. 7.

Two-color 40 by 60 posters are being displayed in lobbies of all S-W circuit houses announcing that returns will be broadcast all day.

Fifth Award to W.E.

Employes of the Western Electric, Kearny, N. J., Works and its several manufacturing units in New York, New Jersey and Haverhill, Mass., have been informed by Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson of their fifth winning of the Army-Navy production award "for outstanding services in the production of war equipment."

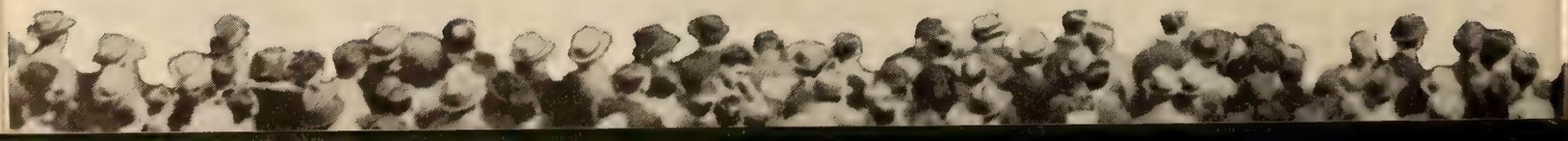
Gay throngs gather 'round Roy Rogers as he rides through the streets during the spectacular carnival sequence in "Brazil," Republic's lavish new musical extravaganza. ADVT.

ERNGEHMANS

Opening day and first week broke all records for popular-price attractions in United Artist Theatre's 14-year career—in first engagement since all-time-record N. Y. Rivoli premiere.

IN HISTORY AT

Is there any lingering doubt in your mind that the outstanding attraction for the Christmas Holidays is this sensational hit from *Paramount?*



CREEK'S BIGGEST

Topped "Going My Way" by 31% in first comparative test, in the theatre where "Way" played for 13 long-run-record weeks!

U.A. DETROIT!

JOAN FONTAINE and ARTURO DE CORDOVA in "FRENCHMAN'S CREEK," In TECHNICOLOR. A MITCHELL LEISEN Production. With Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce, Cecil Kellaway, Harald Ramond. B. G. DeSylva, Executive Producer. Screen Play by Talbot Jennings. Directed by Mitchell Leisen.

$25,000 to 'Music' In Mild Pitt. Week

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 2.—"Music in Manhattan" led off this week with an estimated $25,000 gross for the Stanley. Second on the list came the Penn, with an estimated $18,000 for "Bride by Mistake."

Estimated receipts for the week ending October 31-November 3:

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
FULTON — (1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, third week. Gross: $5,750. (Average: $8,500).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
J. P. HARRIS — (2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Bride By Mistake" (RKO)
PENN — (3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $21,700).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, sixth week. Moveover from the Warner. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
"Ever Since Venus" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
STANLEY — (3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
WARNER — (2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, second week. Moveover from the Penn. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,350).

'Master Race' Tops Milw. Par on Dual

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 2.—"The Master Race" at the Alhambra hit about $12,000; "Storm Over Lisbon" coupled with "Blind Date" on the stage at the Riverside was about $15,000. Most other houses were average.

Estimated receipts for the week ended November 2 are:

"Kismet" (M-G-M)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
PALACE — (2,400) (40c-60c-80c) Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
"Sweet and Low Down" (20th-Fox)
STRAND — (1,400) (40c-60c-80c) Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,500).
"The Master Race" (RKO)
"That's My Baby" (Rep.)
ALHAMBRA — (1,900) (50c-72c) Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
"Blind Date" (on stage)
RIVERSIDE — (2,700) (65c-85c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Bride By Mistake" (RKO)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO)
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000).

'Irish Eyes', 'Race' Share Buffalo Lead

BUFFALO, Nov. 2.—"Irish Eyes Are Smiling," dualed at the Great Lages, is expected to hit $19,000 here. "The Master Race" is headed for $14,000 at the Twentieth Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 4:

"Summer Storm" (UA)
"U-Boat Prisoner" (Col.)
BUFFALO — (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,400).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $16,200).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover. Gross $9,700. (Average: $9,700).
"The Master Race" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,200).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400).

Review

"Together Again"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Nov. 2

COLUMBIA'S thoroughly established reputation as a producer of light, romantic comedies takes on an other decided notch with "Together Again." It's funny to the frequent point of hilarity, tender in love moments, clever in story and smart in juxtaposition of situations.

Irene Dunne is mayor of Brook Haven, straight-laced Vermont town, and a widow—decidedly attractive. She carries on bravely in the tradition of her dear, departed husband, who also had been mayor. Her other inheritances include Mona Freeman, step-daughter and brat, and Charles Coburn, father-in-law, with an understanding mind. His theory is that Miss Dunne ought to have a romance. Hers is snarled with duty, allegiances and inhibitions.

In the town square is a statue of her former husband, and when lightning knocks off its head there is much ado, leading to a New York trip to arrange a new one. That's where Charles Boyer, who plays a sculptor, enters and that's where Miss Dunne's placidity crumbles for an emotional runaway. There is mutual attraction, which propriety compels her to resist. There is also a wild melee in which she is erroneously arrested for a strip-tease performance and spends a night in jail. Boyer follows her home, where he pursues romance and she resists him in increasingly less degree. Ultimately, of course, a love match is joined. But between the beginning and the finish is an array of bright, highly amusing incidents and cross-purposes, which attest to the superior craftsmanship of Virginia Van Upp and F. Hugh Herbert in their screenplay, based on a story by Stanley Russell and Herbert Biberman, and to the capable direction of Charles Vidor.

Miss Dunne is excellent at every turn and once again negotiates, with grace and ease, the gamut from comedy to drama and back again. Boyer, too, is very good in a light role. Coburn, of course, is his own recommendation. Miss Freeman registers very well, but the surprise of the cast is a tall, gawky, newcomer, Jerome Courtland, who is immense as her clumsy, young swain. The others—all good—include Charles Dingle, Elizabeth Patterson, Walter Baldwin and Frank Puglia.

Miss Van Upp, whose first producer effort was "The Impatient Years," makes the summit as a producer again in her second attraction.

Running time, 99 minutes. "G."* Release in November. RED KANN

"G" denotes general classification.

Film Shortage Hits Government Films

(Continued from page 1)

was said. Of this 7,000,000 feet, about 2,500,000 feet were used to release "Tunisian Victory" in the United States, although it was a joint production effort of OWI and of British Ministry of Information. BIS had all the raw stock used charged against its allocation and offered to do the same to secure immediate release of "V-1," but thus far has been unable to secure delivery of the 500,000 feet needed, although it still has some 4,000,000 feet due under its allocation for the year.

Plans of the U. S. Treasury to release OWI's Arturo Toscanini film, "Hymn of All Nations," in connection with the industry's Sixth War Loan Drive have also been abandoned because the raw stock is not available. To secure sufficient raw stock to make trailers for the Sixth War Loan, WAC has been obliged to cut its film bulletins for December and January release from 200 feet to 50 feet each to effect an estimated saving of some 2,000,000 feet of raw stock. WAC stock for these purposes comes from the OWI allocations. OWI is experiencing difficulties in supplying prints of American films for showings in liberated areas under the U. S. Army's Psychological Warfare Branch, because of the raw stock shortage, it is said.

McGovern to Free-Lance

Elmer J. McGovern has resigned from Max Lasky Studios and Films of Industry after serving for the past four years as production manager and film editor. He will free-lance in the documentary and industrial films field.

OWI Overseas Film Unit Produced 31

(Continued from page 1)

2,000 such films were culled some 500, from which eventually 25 were acquired by OWI for re-editing, rewriting and rescoring in about 22 languages and English for overseas release. Completed in 35 mm. film, they were then reduced to 16mm. and achieved distribution theatrically through film distributors' foreign branches, and non-theatrically through community agencies. In London, the films are deposited in the Central Film Library of the British Ministry of Information for showing by non-theatrical groups.

Also produced were seven 20-minute short subjects called U.S.A. "Screen Magazines," for monthly release. In addition a newsreel is issued weekly under the name of "United News." Nearing completion is a feature-length film called "News Review No. 2," which brings the survey of the war up to date, beginning where "News Review No. 1" left off. This review is designed to describe the events of the war to those liberated people who have been shut off from real news and subjected to Axis propaganda.

Among OWI documentaries in work are: "A Million Children" and "Our War in the Pacific."

Piece of 'Star' to Para.

Paramount has acquired a financial interest in "Star in the Window," forthcoming Broadway play, which deals with the problems of a married WAC. Play's authors are L. Bus-Fekete, Mary Helen Fay and Sidney Sheldon. It will be the fifth Broadway production in which Paramount has a financial interest.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, November 2.

RKO RADIO has purchased "Travelers Three," an original by Kenneth Earl, based on present travel conditions. The author has also been engaged to write the screenplay. . . . Bob Graham, 19-year-old baritone, has been signed by Paramount to a term contract. He has been lent to M-G-M for a role in "Weekend at the Waldorf." . . . Hillary Brooke has been signed by Columbia to play the feminine lead opposite Warner Baxter in the next of the studio's "Crime Doctor" series. . . . Gustav Machaty has signed Rudolph Friml to write special songs for his forthcoming Republic production, "Jealousy."

•

Carol Thurston has been signed by RKO Radio on a long-term deal for two pictures a year. . . . Paramount has lifted the options of Bill Edwards and Pat Phelan. . . . Ben Pivar has taken on an extended program of Universal features, the first of which will be "She-Wolf of London." . . . 20th Century-Fox has lifted Otto Preminger's option, and announced that his next production will be "Fallen Angel." . . . Morgan B. Cox has been named supervisor of serials at Universal. . . John Eldridge has been assigned an important role in "Circumstantial Evidence" at 20th Century-Fox . . . Raymond Massey has returned from New York and reports shortly to Warners for "Hotel Berlin."

•

Phil Karlstein has been signed to direct the Monogram comedy "Make Way for Kelly." Lindsley Parsons will produce . . . Jack Carson has been given the leading male role opposite Joan Crawford in "Mildred Pierce," Warner version of the James M. Cain novel . . . Stella Unger and Alec Templeton will write a Broadway musical together.

Lillian Fontaine, the mother of Joan Fontaine and Olivia de Havilland, will make her screen debut in Paramount's "The Lost Weekend" . . . Willard Parker, having received a medical discharge from the Army, will return to Columbia shortly to fulfill his contractual obligations . . . Andrea King has been assigned an important role in "Hotel Berlin" at Warners . . . . Producer Hunt Stromberg has signed Ruth Warrick to a five-year contract, calling for one picture a year . . . Columbia has purchased an original titled "Little Miss Barker." It's a musical comedy with a Coney Island Background.

•

RKO Radio has picked "The Magnificent Tramp" as temporary title of the picture Cantinflas is to make for the company in two versions, English and Spanish. By RKO Radio custom, this and other titles will be tested by Audience Research, Inc., which Gallup Polls the public on these matters, before becoming official . . . M-G-M's Carey Wilson is off to New York and Chicago to address exhibitor meetings on the importance of short subjects . . . Universal has extended the contract of director Charles David, who recently completed "Fairy Tale Murder," and assigned him direction of Deanna Durbin's "Lady On a Train."

FAME

ELEVENTH ANNUAL EDITION
OF THE INDUSTRY'S INTERNATIONAL
REFERENCE AUTHORITY ON TALENT
VALUES IS NOW IN PREPARATION
BY THE WORLD-WIDE STAFF OF
QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS . . .

EDITED BY TERRY RAMSAYE

QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS
ROCKEFELLER CENTER, NEW YORK (20)

JOIN THE FIGHTING SIXTH WAR LOAN

REPUBLIC PICTURES CORPORATION

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 88 — NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1944 — TEN CENTS

WB Interest in ABP Circuit Not for Sale

Milder Makes Statement After Deal Disclosed

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Nov. 5.—Max Milder, Warners managing director here, said today that his company's 25 per cent interest in Associated British Pictures Corp. is "not for sale at any price."

His statement was made as a result of receipt of cabled instructions from Jack L. Warner, vice-president and production head of Warners, following upon the exclusive disclosure by MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Wednesday that a syndicate headed by John Gibson Jarvie, financial figure with Bank of England backing, had contracted to acquire the 25 per cent interest in ABP owned by Mrs. John Maxwell. Informed sources assert

(*Continued on page* 11)

Mexico to Make Six Operatic Films

Ernesto De Quesada, representative of the Mexican Government and president of the National Opera of Mexico, returned to Mexico City over the weekend after having completed negotiations in New York for singers from the Metropolitan Opera Company to appear in six operatic films to be made from May through August in Mexico City. Films will be complete operas, five Italian and one French, and will be sung in these languages.

Cost of production will be $100,000

(*Continued on page* 12)

Luporini to Italy In 20th-Fox Post

Mario Luporini, in charge of Spanish dubbing for 20th Century-Fox, has been named manager for Italy, it was learned at the weekend. Luporini was formerly United Artists Italian manager for many years.

Luporini will leave for Italy as soon

(*Continued on page* 12)

No Paper Tomorrow

"Motion Picture Daily" will not be published tomorrow, Election Day.

U. A. to Release 6 From 25 Million Program by Jan. 19

United Artists will release six films between now and Jan. 19, Carl Leserman, UA general sales manager, announced at the weekend. The releases are part of a current $25,000,000 program of pictures in preparation, production and films being readied for release, the company said.

"Dark Waters," Benedict Bogeaus' production starring Merle Oberon, Franchot Tone and Thomas Mitchell, will be released Nov. 10. "3 Is a Family," Sol Lessers' production from the Broadway stage play, and starring Charlie Ruggles, Helen Broderick and Fay Bainter, will be released Nov. 23. A Dec. 8 release date has been set for Hunt Stromberg's "Guest in the House," also from a Broadway stage play, and starring Anne Baxter, with Ralph Bellamy and Ruth Warrick. Lester Cowan's "Tomorrow the

(*Continued on page* 7)

No Withholding Tax For Variety Actors

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—The Internal Revenue Bureau on Friday, affirmed its tentative ruling of last February, that variety entertainers employed in short-term engagements for a number of different operators are independent contractors for the purposes of the withholding tax.

However, it was pointed out, that performers in a "stage show," "floor show," or similar performance are held to be employes from whose remuneration the tax must be withheld. There was no change in the Bureau's position with respect to musicians, entertainers or actors performing under

(*Continued on page* 7)

Most Home Offices to Observe Holiday

M-G-M, United Artists, Warners, Universal, Columbia and RKO home offices will be closed all day tomorrow, Election Day. Monogram and Paramount will remain open until one o'clock, while PRC will remain open all day. The MPPDA office will be closed all day, while the American Arbitration Association office will be open.

Treasury Lifts Ban On French Business

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—Removing the liberated areas of France from the category of "enemy territory," the Treasury on Friday lifted restrictions on business and commercial communications with these areas. Treasury licenses will no longer be required for concerns in this country and liberated France to exchange financial and commercial information and establish business contacts.

No licenses, however, will be granted at this time for the sending to France of powers of attorney, payment instructions or other communications of a transactional nature. In order that American business interests may not be placed at a disadvantage, the British Government, it is understood, has adopted rules similar to those announced by the Treasury.

On Oct. 26, MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported that distribution of films in France is being turned over to the U.S. and other Allied companies as a result of the division of the country into civilian and military zones.

Army Film Conservation Mapped at Conference

A conference of Army film distribution officers to insure maximum conservation of raw film stock in the face of the current shortage and to plan for the future Army film program was concluded Saturday at the Signal Corps Photographic Center, Long Island City. Officers from all service commands in the U. S., together with Air Force and other military personnel, attended the conference at the invitation of Col. E. L. Munson, Jr., Chief of the Army Pictorial Servive.

Latest developments in military film distribution, such as the change in the type of material being filmed and the reduction in the number of prints distributed, were described. Rehabilitation activities and post-war educational projects are now calling for attention, Col. Munson pointed out, although the need for standard military training films remains high. Col. Munson also said that every effort was being made to economize on the use of film stock. He pointed out that the most careful planning by distribution officers in the various service commands is necessary to make sure that "every soldier sees every film the Army makes for him." Recently, Herman Wobber, an executive of 20th Century-Fox, made a survey of Army film distribution.

Top Receipts Tomorrow Are Expected

Many Establishments to Close for Election

Theatres in the Metropolitan area anticipate excellent business tomorrow, Election Day, with most establishments, except war plants and department stores, scheduled to close for the day. Few theatres, however, are making elaborate preparations to carry election returns in view of the late closing of the polls in New York and elsewhere and the lack of significance of early returns that trickle in before theatres start final showings of main features.

Holiday prices will prevail at most of the downtown New York first-run

(*Continued on page* 7)

Buffalo Bondsmen Greet Local Hero

BUFFALO, Nov. 5.—Pledging 100 per cent cooperation with the Treasury Department and the War Finance Committees throughout the state, more than 200 representatives of the motion picture industry in upper New York, exhibitors and distributors, met at the weekend in the Hotel Statler here and heard talks by members of the Flying Squadron representing the industry's War Activities Committee Sixth War Loan campaign leaders.

C. J. Latta of Albany, upstate exhibitor chairman, presided, assisted by

(*Continued on page* 11)

MGM to Hold Sales Meet Nov. 16-19

M-G-M will hold its mid-seasonal sales and district managers' meeting at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Nov. 16 to 19. The sessions will be attended by 26 home office and field executives with William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, presiding.

Some of those in attendance will be

(*Continued on page* 7)

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "Bowery Champs", Monogram, and "Rustlers Hideout" and "Brand of the Devil", both PRC, will be found on page 8.

Personal Mention

NED E. DEPINET, national distributor chairman for the Sixth War Loan, and LEON J. BAMBERGER, assistant distributor chairman, returned to New York at the weekend from a tour on behalf of the drive. DEPINET will leave Thursday for Hartford and Boston.

•

LOU POLLOCK, advertising and publicity director for United Artists, is in Beth David Hospital here as a result of an injury to his back.

•

HARRY COX, GEORGE BOWSER and TOM PAIGE, National Theatres' executives, left New York at the weekend for the Coast.

•

DAVID COPLAN, British managing director for United Artists, is en route to London, following a New York and Hollywood visit.

•

LILLIAN BLISS, secretary to LARRY KENT, a member of the Gaumont Theatres board, has resigned, and will reside in Richmond, Va.

•

EUGENE CURLEY of Warners' contract department is the father of a girl, MARGARET ANN, born Thursday in Woodside, L. I.

•

CAREY WILSON, M-G-M producer of the Nostradamus series, is in New York.

•

JAY CARMODY, film critic of the Washington *Star*, is in New York.

•

IRVING RUBINE, executive assistant to LESTER COWAN, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

REX WILLIAMS, exploitation director for United Artists, left at the weekend for Chicago.

AAA Appoints New Tribunal Clerks

The American Arbitration Association reported at the weekend the following appointments of arbitration tribunal clerks in the Kansas City, St. Louis and Des Moines tribunals, effective Nov. 1: In Kansas City, Raymond B. Scudder has replaced H. B. Taylor, resigned; in St. Louis, Helen D. Borger has been named to succeed Harold D. Connor, and in Des Moines, Bruce Wilson has replaced Robert B. Joselyn.

WB To Reissue 'Blonde'

Warners will reissue "Strawberry Blonde," starring James Cagney, Olivia de Havilland, Rita Hayworth and Jack Carson, on Dec. 2 with a new publicity and advertising campaign.

'Romance' Dates Set

M-G-M will open "An American Romance" at Loew's State, New York, and simultaneously in 10 other houses in New York and New Jersey on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

FOLLOWING upon this column's report last week on a visit to a Broadway play opening, in the company of a circuit executive and the latter's random comments on operation of legitimate theatres, among other things, during which he compared such operations with those of motion picture theatres (to the advantage of the latter), the mail bag brought the following from Harry Fromkes:

"I read your column with a great deal of interest because I am the new owner of The Playhouse. I have sent your article on for reading to some of my friends who also operate theatres in New York.

"Incidentally, it might interest you to know that The Playhouse has abolished the checking concession and hats and coats may now be checked without charge. I have also abolished the sale of all drinks and candies and during intermission ice water will be served without charge by the attendants.

"While this is only a small step in the right direction, I hope that the other theatres (legitimate) will follow suit.

"The following in your column interested me: 'What we really ought to do is to take over this play producing business and run it right. That's what I tell them in the office.'

"You might tell your friend that I am open for a deal along these lines."

We did. Our friend says he'll "tell them at the office."

• •

First-day covers, the delight of many philatelists, were much in evidence in industry mail rooms immediately following the issuance last Tuesday of the new three-cent stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of motion pictures. For the benefit of the uninitiated, it may be explained that a first-day cover is an envelope bearing a newly issued stamp cancelled by the post office (usually not more than two) where the stamp is placed on sale for the first time, one day in advance of the general sale of the stamp in post offices elsewhere. The cancellation bears the designation "First Day of Issue," and the postmark the date and place of issue, in the case of the anniversary film stamp, Oct. 31 in New York and Los Angeles.

The first-day covers mailed by Postmaster General Frank C. Walker to many in the industry enclosed a letter which reads in part:

"Motion pictures have taken the finest actors and the best plays to the crossroads and villages of the world; they have been outstanding in the development of culture, bringing to peoples of the world a visualization of the life and habits and customs of one another. As one of the great media of expression and education of this age, motion pictures are particularly recognized on this 50th anniversary because of their splendid contribution to the war effort from a technical standpoint and their achievement in bringing something of America and home to our fighting forces all over the world."

•

First-day covers despatched by Will H. Hays, himself a former Postmaster General, bore his facsimile signature on an envelope which reproduced an illustration of the first public exhibition of motion pictures at the Edison Kinetoscope parlor, 1115 Broadway, New York, on April 14, 1894. It enclosed a letter which reads in part:

"The natural, widest and longest usefulness of the motion picture has been and will be to years of peace. To these years we look forward with complete realization of the obligation to provide the greatest possible service to the largest possible number—service of entertainment, information, education and inspiration.

"We cannot say what the motion picture of the future will be. We do know that there will be an enormously increased demand for all the services which pictures can provide. We know that they will be fashioned to use new scientific, artistic and technical developments and to fit new economic and social conditions, new cultural, educational and entertainment needs. We do declare that the further development of the motion picture will be conditioned by the industry's continued determination to meet these needs.

"If this letter can convey to our friends the importance their support and counsel has been and will be to us in the accomplishment of this determination, this 'First Day Cover' will have more than a philatelic significance."

WLB Approves Wage Boosts in 2 Cities

The Regional War Labor Board with jurisdiction over New Haven and Boston has approved a system of job classifications and wage scales and a minimum 10 per cent wage increase for office workers in New Haven and Boston film exchanges. Similar approval already has been secured for workers in New York, Albany and Buffalo exchanges, while similar applications have been filed with regional boards in all exchange cities except Los Angeles.

The minimum and maximum wage scales for 18 job classifications set up by the companies and the IATSE, which represents the exchange workers, are slightly lower in the New Haven and Boston areas than in New York exchanges where the IATSE has jurisdiction over Warner, Paramount, RKO and Universal workers.

The wage increases are retroactive to December, 1943. About 140 workers are involved in Boston exchanges and about 50 in New Haven. About $25,000 in back pay is involved.

Hellinger To Quit Warners In Year

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 5.—Mark Hellinger has given Warners one year's notice of his intention to relinquish his producer's contract which has until 1947 to run. Hellinger told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that his sole reason for exercising the prerogative granted by his contract was "to free myself to fit into the coming pattern of business in which independent production will predominate."

Hellinger will produce two or more pictures for Warners in his remaining time with the company. He first joined Warners in 1937, went to 20th-Fox in 1941 and returned to the Warner lot in 1942.

Loew's Issues Back Pay

Loew's paid its home office publicists at the weekend 79 weeks of retroactive pay under the recent Screen Publicists Guild of New York arbitration award. Loew's was the last company to pay, all the others having done so last week. Each publicist received $790 minus 20 per cent tax deductions and 25 per cent on the first 52 weeks for SPG expenses and treasury.

Vetluguin To Coast

Vladimir Vetluguin, assistant to Louis B. Mayer on purchase of stories and plays, left for the Coast at the weekend after three weeks in New York. He told MOTION PICTURE DAILY he had taken options while here on several productions, scripts and writers subject to the approval of Mayer.

Hirliman Seeks Outlets

George A. Hirliman, president of International Theatrical and Television Corp., has completed visits to Boston, Philadelphia and Atlanta to establish outlets for the newly formed company.

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LITHO U

SOPEG, SPG Weigh Plans for Mergers

The executive board of the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, Local 109, UOPWA, has appointed a committee to investigate a contemplated merger of SOPEG's 3,500 members with Local 1, UOPWA, which includes 15,000 members in the finance, publishing, magazine, advertising and direct mail fields. The amalgamation committee will report back to the executive board, after which the membership will discuss the proposal and vote on it.

In the event that the amalgamation of the two locals should take effect, SOPEG headquarters will be housed in the White Collar Center building downtown and a branch office will be maintained in the Times Square area. While SOPEG would retain its structure as a guild, the pooling of resources would pave the way for an organizing drive in radio and allied fields and consolidate organization in the film industry, it is understood.

The Screen Publicists Guild, Local 114, UOPWA, also plans to submit a similar amalgamation proposal to its membership shortly.

Canada Distributors To Pass on Code

TORONTO, Nov. 5.—Motion Picture Distributors Association of Canada is meeting here tomorrow to give formal approval to a modified draft of the conciliation code which provides for six regional boards to deal with several groups of trade disputes not including film rentals and priority runs. Executive board of the Motion Picture Theatre Association of Ontario meets Tuesday to pass on the same code which has already been accepted by the organized independents of Ontario and Quebec.

MPTA of Ontario represents circuit companies and individual exhibitors who are not members of the Ontario Council of Independent Exhibitors.

Way was paved for the adoption of a modified conciliation code when Ontario independents explained in a recent meeting with Administrator J. R. Croft of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board that it did not deal with conciliation measures under discussion with circuits and distributors but touched on release grouping of new season product which independents claimed were top heavy with specials.

Remembered HisWorkers

HARRISBURG, Pa., Nov. 5.—Employes of local Fabian theatres who were under the jurisdiction of the late C. Floyd Hopkins, city manager, were remembered in his will, which gives $500 each to his secretary, Mary Ellen Perrigo, and to managers John D. O'Rear, E. Girard Wollaston and John F. Rogers, and $300 to three ticket sellers, Estelle Hicks, Bertha Olsen and Genevieve Funk. Each additional theatre employe, with a service record of one year or more, will get $50.

Bradly to "Journal"

ATLANTA, Nov. 5.—Bill Bradly, former manager of the Paramount Theatre here, has been named public relations director of the Atlanta *Journal*. H. L. Denman succeeds Bradly at the Paramount.

Top Receipts Tomorrow Expected by Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

theatres, where banner business is expected in view of the throngs sure to converge on the Times Square area. The Radio City Music Hall sold out all its reserved mezzanine seats early last week for Election Day performances and many theatres plan to open their doors earlier than usual in anticipation of heavy business during the day.

The Roxy is one of the few theatres that has made any elaborate plans to carry election returns to its patrons. Returns received over a direct wire service from radio station WMCA will be posted on a large score board in the rotunda on a miniature stage. The Strand also has a direct wire service with WMCA, while the Capitol and Loew's houses throughout the city will be serviced by station WHN. The Paramount has installed an International News Service ticker and plans to put latest flashes on slides and bring them right to the audiences. Most theatres, however, will not break into showings of their films to report returns.

The Music Hall will have a radio operating in the Grand Lounge and will break into its show with a stage announcement only if a highly significant news flash comes through while a show is in progress. Theatres are proceeding on the assumption that patrons will be seeking entertainment first and election returns second. Most will make announcements from the stage of significant news in between units of programs but they are not making any elaborate preparations to do so, banking as RKO New York circuit houses are, on radios to furnish reports.

New York's three television stations, WMBT, National Broadcasting, WCBS, Columbia Broadcasting and WABD, DuMont, will be on the air to bring those with video sets the latest election returns from eight p.m. until midnight or later. CBS also will entertain representaitves of the radio and daily press at an election night party at Hotel Berkshire while the returns are being received and broadcast. Generally, radio stations have cancelled all commercial programs to carry uninterrupted bulletins of interest, as received.

U. S. Companies Aid Canada's Bond Drive

TORONTO, Nov. 5.—Subscriptions of Famous Players Canadian Corp. and subsidiary companies to Canada's Seventh Victory Loan has been officially announced at $1,221,200. This total does not include individual subscriptions for bonds by the head office and circuit theatre employees.

Other large company subsrciptions announced include Warner Bros., $200,000, Paramount Film Service, $125,000, Loew's Theatre, Toronto, $150,000 and Loew's Uptown Theatre, Toronto, $50,000. Other large subscriptions are yet to be announced.

No Withholding Tax For Variety Actors

(*Continued from page* 1)

contracts of the "form B" type, for the furnishing of a complete unit of entertainment, who are held to be employes.

"Generally, variety entertainers perform their special routines in a series of short-term engagements for a number of different operators of theatres, night clubs, restaurants and similar establishments under contracts which ordinarily specify only the time, remuneration, place and duration of each engagement," the bureau explained. "The control, if any, which is exercised by such operators over the performance of their services is purely incidental to the continuity of the entertainment programs. Such entertainers will be considered to be independent contractors for Federal employment tax purposes and for purposes of the income tax withholding under the current Tax Payment Act of 1943."

Heads W.B. Buffalo Club

BUFFALO, Nov. 5.—R. Ruth Rappaport has been elected president of the Warner Club here. John Strauss was elected vice-president; Miss Eleanor Schudlik, secretary, and Miss Gertrude Monczynski, treasurer.

Canada Restriction On Posters Lifted

TORONTO, Nov. 5.—Although paper stocks are still limited, restrictions on printing of posters, advertising accessories, including heralds, blotters and calendars have been entirely lifted by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, it was announced at the weekend by John Atkins, Administrator of Publishing, Printing and Allied Industries.

This will be of direct benefit to all Canadian film exchanges and theatre managers. House organs or periodicals continue under Government permit controls, but the modification of the wartime order will allow an increase in paper quotas.

MGM to Hold Sales Meet Nov. 16-19

(*Continued from page* 1)

E. M. Saunders, assistant general sales manager; E. K. O'Shea, Eastern sales manager; John E. Flynn, Western sales manager; John J. Mahoney, Central sales manager; George A. Hickey, West Coast district manager, Los Angeles; Burtus Bishop, Jr., district manager, Dallas; Charles E. Kessnich, district manager, Atlanta; Rudolph Berger, district manager, Washington; Sam A. Shirley, Midwestern district manager, Chicago; John P. Byrne, Central district manager, Detroit; Maurice N. Wolf, New England district manager, Boston; Bob Lynch, Philadelphia, and John J. Bowen, New York and New Jersey.

Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of publicity, advertising and exploitation, accompanied by 11 other members of the home office staff will attend the meeting.

Art Smith Promoted

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 5.—Arthur Smith, former manager of Varbalow's Savar Theatre, Camden, N. J., has been appointed district manager for Savar Amusement Co. E. J. Coyle has been named to succeed Smith.

A. W. Smith Denies Schine Collusion With Distributors

BUFFALO, Nov. 5.—Testimony of A. W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, as a defense witness in the Schine Circuit anti-trust trial here, was completed Friday before Federal Judge John Knight, who adjourned the trial to Wednesday. Because Smith had been general sales manager for RKO, United Artists and Warner Bros., Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice during cross-examination encompassed the witness' services to all these distributors in his interrogation.

'Quick Decisions'

Wright sought unsuccessfully to show through Smith that circuits were given preference over small independent exhibitors in buying product. Smith said that all distributors have different policies, and that "the motion picture business is a very timely business and decisions have to be made quick." Through the witness, Wright probed the inner workings of 20th-Fox. He failed to draw any statements from Smith to the effect that Schine had been given better terms in comparison with other exhibitors.

Wright asked him if he recalled deviating from the regular 35 per cent figure in dealing with Schine and offering 20 per cent and flat rentals to the circuit. Smith said he did not. Despite Wright's contentions to the contrary, Smith declared 20th-Fox considered the exhibitor first and itself second in the sale of product. Smith qualified the statement later by declaring deals should be "fair to both the distributor and exhibitor." Under direct examination by Edward F. McClennen, defense counsel, Smith declared that about 70 per cent of distributor business comes from first run theatres and that in selecting a customer for product in a competitive area, a distributor takes into consideration the ability of that exhibitor to gross.

'Most Qualified'

At one point in direct examination, Wright interrupted to charge Smith was not "qualified" to state as to Schine's dealings with distributors. McClennen then declared Smith is "one of the most experienced men in the country in the motion picture business," and challenged Wright to "produce one more qualified." Smith denied that he or any others at 20th-Fox ever were asked by Schine not to sell to Schine competition.

U. A. Sets Release Of Six Features

(*Continued from page* 1)

World," starring Fredric March and Betty Field and introducing Skippy Homeier, will be released Dec. 29. This is also from a Broadway stage play.

The first two UA releases in 1945 will be Vanguard's Dore Schary production, "I'll Be Seeing You," starring Ginger Rogers, Joseph Cotten and Shirley Temple, on Jan. 5, and "Mr. Emmanuel," the first of the seven British films made by J. Arthur Rank to be released by UA, Jan. 19.

'SYWA' Draws Big $43,000 In Chi. Week

CHICAGO, Nov. 5.—Only 50 per cent of good weekend business was realized by leading Loop houses, political activities here proving too great a box office attraction to top last Saturday night. However, "Since You Went Away" managed to hold its own and has grossed a fine $43,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 2:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO — (1,200) (80c-$1.10) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average, 35c-95c scale: $11,400).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
CHICAGO — (3,850) (55c-85c-95c) Stage: Paul Draper and Revue. 2nd week. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $51,500).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
DOWNTOWN — (1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c) 2nd Loop run. Stage: Milt Britton and band, and Bonnie Baker. Gross: $15,000.
"The Great Moment" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.) 5 days
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
GARRICK — (1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Cry of the Werewolf" (Col.)
"The Soul of a Monster" (Col.) 6 days, 2nd week
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M Reissue) 1 day
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Faces in the Fog" (Rep.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c - 55c - 85c - 95c) Stage: Bob Chester and orchestra. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $24,000).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.) 6 days
"Abroad With Two Yanks" (UA)
"Murder in the Blue Room" (Univ.) 1 day
PALACE — (2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $43,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-85c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 5th week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $10,000).

'Maisie,' 'Darling' Duo Lead in Omaha

OMAHA, Nov. 5.—"Maisie Goes to Reno" and "In the Meantime Darling" at the Orpheum with $11,900 beat out "Greenwich Village" at the Paramount Theatre for the week's top gross here.

Estimated receipts for week ended November 1-2:

"The Master Race" (RKO)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
BRANDEIS — (1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days Gross: $7,400. (Average, $6,500).
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
OMAHA — (2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week for "Barbary Coast," moveover from Paramount. Gross: $7,400. (Average, $8,400).
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
ORPHEUM — (3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,900. (Average, $9,800).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,100. (Average: $11,700).

Global Acquires Scores

Global Music, Inc., has acquired the scores of 14 motion pictures in addition to the recent purchase of the entire catalogue of Harvest Songs Co., Sid Lorraine, professional manager of the four-month-old firm, announced. Among the scores acquired are those of "Dixie Jamboree," "Career Girl," "Swing Hostess," "A Song for Miss Julie," "Alaska," "Melody Parade" and "Machine Gun Mama."

Reviews

"Bowery Champs"

(Monogram)

SAM KATZMAN and Jack Dietz may confuse exhibitors a little by this production's title, which does not exactly fit the East Side Kids' solving a murder mystery, but under any name it would still be a funny and lively show.

Earle Snell's screenplay, listed as original, finds the New York *Evening Express* staff excited over the shooting of wealthy Wheeler Oakman and the clues pointing to Evelyn Brent, formerly his wife. The paper's police reporter, Gabriel Dell of the East Side gang, is off on some personal business having to do with a woman when the story breaks; but Leo Gorcey, copy boy, jumps into the breach and drags along the rest of the kids, who work on the delivery truck. Their antics gaining access to the official inquiry and then to the apartment of the innocent suspect, always two jumps ahead of the cops, are quite hilarious, and the wind dashes about town end with a good fist battle in a night club to which they trace the dead man's mistress, Thelma White, who really did the job.

William Beaudine, directing, has apparently given free rein to the youngsters, whose irrelevant horseplay comes to the rescue whenever the script needs fumigating from the aroma of too much facile coincidence.

Running time, 62 mins. "G."* Release, Dec. 9. TOM LOY

"Rustlers Hideout"

(PRC)

BUSTER CRABBE shoots his way through "Rustlers Hideout," ably assisted by the heartily amusing Al 'Fuzzy' St. John, whose antics here, as usual, are good for a laugh. It's a routine story in which the local bankers, John Merton and Lane Chandler, scheme to swindle an honest rancher, Hal Price, out of his property by hiring thugs to steal his cattle.

Crabbe, wanted for murder in another state, rounds up the rustlers after a series of chases, gun fights and rugged slug fests in which everyone, including pretty little Patti McCarthy, Price's daughter, gets a lick. In the final battle Merton is killed and Chandler caught with the evidence necessary to convict him; Crabbe is cleared of the charge, and Fuzzy emerges the hero.

Under the direction of Sam Newfield, the film maintains a steady pace, the emphasis on the action. Joe O'Donnell wrote the story and screenplay. Sigmund Neufeld produced. HELEN MCNAMARA.

Running time, 60 minutes. "G."*

"Brand of the Devil"

(PRC)

Hollywood, Nov. 5

NOT much gets past Dave O'Brien and Jim Newill as Texas Rangers. They're as handy with a gun as the next man, and when it comes to uncovering a dastardly plot to frame a defenseless female, the boys are right in there pitching.

Elmer Clifton, who wrote the original screenplay, gave a good share of the acting load to Ellen Hall who, as a lone woman fighting aginst fearful odds, acquits herself more than creditably. Victim of a scheme to send her to jail on fabricated evidence, she is delivered from her predicament by the Rangers.

Harry Fraser's direction accounts for much of the pace of this fast-moving melodrama. Guy Wilkerson and Charles King, Jr., contribute comic touches to a suspenseful screenplay. Production is by Arthur Alexander.

Running time, 57 minutes. "G."*

**"G" denotes general classification.*

THALIA BELL.

Republic Sets Air Programs on WMCA

Republic will launch a series of radio programs on station WMCA, New York, on Nov. 13. The format of the programs will be five-minute spots on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays featuring Judith Allen, screen and stage star, to highlight Republic films opening on Broadway. The program will also include telephonic conversations between Miss Allen and a Republic star or production executive at the company's West Coast studio.

G. C. F. for Buchanan

Buchanan & Co. has been appointed advertising agency to handle the General Cinema Finance Pictures account for United Artists. The first of seven pictures from the J. Arthur Rank Company to be released here during the next few months will be "Mr. Emmanuel."

C. V. Lynch, MGM L. A. Manager, Dead

Funeral Services for Clayton V. Lynch, 55, M-G-M branch manager for Los Angeles, who died at St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, on Thursday, will be held today at Donnelly's Funeral Parlor, St. Louis. Lynch, accompanied by his wife, had been en route to New York for home office conferences when he was stricken.

Lynch entered the industry in 1921 as a salesman for Goldwyn and in 1922 was appointed manager at Des Moines. At the time of the M-G-M merger in 1924 he was made Omaha branch manager for M-G-M and he went to St. Louis in the same capacity in 1926. Ten years later he received the Los Angeles appointment

Another 'E' to DeVry

CHICAGO, Nov. 5. — DeVry Corp. has been awarded the Army-Navy 'E' for excellence in production of sound equipment.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 5

RODUCTION on the film version of the Pulitzer-prize winning novel, "The Yearling," is to be resumed in the spring. Sidney Franklin will produce it for M-G-M. . . . Paramount has a financial interest in the forthcoming Broadway play, "Star in the Window," by L. Bus-Fekete and Mary Helen Fay. . . . At Warners, Alex Gottlieb has been assigned to produce "Three Men on a Horse." Mervyn LeRoy produced it for the company in 1936.

•

Richard Thorpe will direct "Her Highness and the Bellboy" for M-G-M. . . Victor McLaglen has been signed by Columbia to team with Chester Morris in the co-starring roles of "Men of the Deep," in which the two will portray deep-sea divers in the salvage division of the U. S. Army Engineering Corps. Del Lord is to direct. . . Peter Lorre will have a featured role in Warner's "Hotel Berlin."

•

Frank Morgan has been assigned a top comedy spot in "Yolanda and the Thief," musical scheduled to go into production shortly at M-G-M. . . . Barton MacLane has been signed by Pine-Thomas to play the heavy in "You'll Be the Death of Me," which will co-star Jack Haley and Ann Savage. . . . Jerome Cowan will have one of the key spots in the next "Crime Doctor" picture at Columbia.

William Keegan, N. J. Manager, Dies at 58

WILDWOOD, N. J., Nov. 5.—William Keegan, veteran theatre manager, died at his home here late last week of a heart attack. He was 58 years old.

Keegan was former general manager of the Hunt Circuit in Southern New Jersey; managed the Hunt theatres in Trenton for 18 years and at one time managed theatres in Philadelphia. He is survived by his wife.

H. J. Gruver, Balto. Exhibitor, Is Dead

BALTIMORE, Nov. 5.—Harry J. Gruver, treasurer of the New Theatre Co., Baltimore, and owner of the Glen and New Glen Theatres at Glenburnie, died suddenly late last week of a heart attack. He was 58 years old and recently left Ben Secours Hospital where he had rested under doctor's orders. He had been identified with Baltimore theatre business for many years. Funeral services were held yesterday morning.

Mrs. D. V. McLucas Dead

OMAHA, Nov. 5.—Mrs. Donald V. McLucas, wife of the United Artists branch manager here, died last week following a lengthy illness.

Rickenbacker Film Set

"First, Last and Always" will be the title of the forthcoming 20th Century-Fox film, based on the story of Eddie Rickenbacker, World War I air hero. Winfield R. Sheehan will produce.

AND NOW *Tomorrow*

IS THE BIG EVENT

in the meteoric career of the amazing Paramount star who, in twelve months and four pictures, became the screen's Number 1 Man — — hailed by trade observers as "The Greatest Thing Since Valentino".....

LADD'S BACK for Thanksgiving!

FROM THE GREAT BEST-SELLER BY THE AUTHOR OF "ALL THIS, AND HEAVEN TOO"

And Beulah Bondi — Cecil Kellaway. Directed by IRVING PICHEL. Screenplay by Frank Partos, and Raymond Chandler.

Great news for the thousands of exhibitors who could hardly believe their own box-office reports on "China," "Lucky Jordan," etc.....Greater news still that his welcome-home picture is even bigger and more important than the hits that made him an overnight sensation....With a distinguished star role that *Boxoffice* calls "Undoubtedly the best performance of Ladd's career!"

Paramount's

"AND NOW Tomorrow"

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Gaumont British Net Off $20,548 to $769,336 in 1944

LONDON, Nov. 5.—J. Arthur Rank, chairman of the board of Gaumont British Picture Corp., Ltd., reported at the weekend in the annual financial statement on the company's earnings for the last fiscal year, that no satisfactory agreement has been reached with the Chancellor of the Exchequer with regard to outstanding tax liabilities, adding that enemy robot bombing had adversely affected grosses of London theatres, but that receipts elsewhere were maintained.

Rank revealed that after provision of $6,207,028 for excess profits and other taxation and deductions for debenture payment, interest charges and depreciation, the net profit amounted to $769,336, a decline of $20,548 from the last fiscal year. Rank's statement added that consolidated gross earnings had declined $214,013 to $11,140,292, despite theatre grosses maintaining previous levels, because operational costs have been proportionately greater. Increase in payment of taxes amounted to $29,536.

Two Radio Firms Get Reduced Tax

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—Two broadcasting corporations were given relief from excess profits taxes under the relief provisions of section 722 of the Internal Revenue Code during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1943, it has been disclosed by the Treasury Department. The Treasury showed that the Radio Service Corp., Pocatello, Idaho, asked an increase of $4,326 in its excess profits credit for 1942 and was granted $1,783, reducing its excess profits tax to $1,605, but increasing its income tax by $481.

The Iowa Broadcasting Co., Des Moines, asked increased credits of $62,146 for 1940, $77,584 for 1941, and $71,408 for 1942, and was granted $17,317, $47,549 and $47,605 for those years, respectively, resulting in an over-all decrease in excess profits taxes of $72,621, partially offset by an increase of $27,351 in income tax.

Crosley 9 Months Net Is $3,571,388

CINCINNATI, Nov. 5.—The Crosley Corp., operating WLW, WSAI and several short wave stations, and manufacturing precision devices for the Government, reports net earnings of $3,571,388 after provisions for taxes, but before renegotiations of war contracts, for the first nine months of this year ended Sept. 30, compared with $3,771,899 on a like basis for the comparable period of last year.

Net sales for the 1944 period were $72,667,120, and $58,978, 783 for the same period of 1943.

Buy Memphis Theatre

MEMPHIS, Nov. 5.—R. W. Tyson and Wagner Williams Sr., Jackson, Miss., the former until recently operating a chain of theatres in Jackson, have purchased the DeSoto Theatre, here, from J. T. Lester at a reported price of $35,000.

Buffalo Bondsmen Greet Local Hero, Pledge 100%

(*Continued from page 1*)

George H. Mackenna, Buffalo exhibitor chairman. The Treasury representative was Lt. Col. Roswell P. Rosengren, former local Junior Chamber of Commerce executive, recently returned wounded from action overseas. Other speakers included Nathan Yamins, co-chairman, national committee; William F. Crockett, assistant chairman; Francis S. Harmon, co-ordinator, War Activities Committee; Leon J. Bamberger, assistant national distributor chairman; Charles Deardourff, member of the national publicity committee.

Among the guests at the rally were Mayor Joseph J. Kelly of Buffalo; Col. John M. McDowell, commanding officer, Second Service Command, Dist. 4; E. H. Letchworth, upstate chairman, War Finance Committee; Mannie A. Brown, Buffalo area distributor chairman; Clayton P. Eastman, Albany area distributor chairman; Daniel W. Streeter, chairman of the Erie county Sixth War Loan committee; Lars S. Potter, deputy upstate chairman, War Finance Committee; Charles B. Taylor, Buffalo area publicity chairman; representatives of all the military services stationed in the Buffalo district; Charles Smakwitz, Albany publicity chairman and exhibitors from Rochester, Syracuse, Binghamton, Elmira, Utica, Watertown and other cities.

Committee chairmen for the Buffalo area drive were: finance, Stanley Kozanowski; publicity, Charles B. Taylor; luncheon, Max Yellen; tickets, Ralph Maw; decoration, Jack Goldstein; speakers, Sidney B. Pfeifer; community, George Gammel; executive and advisory, Vincent R. McFaul; exhibitor, Buffalo, George H. Mackenna; Niagara Falls, A. Charles Hayman. Zone chairmen named by Latta include: Jay Golden and Lester Pollock, Rochester; Harry Unterfort and Sidney Grossman, Syracuse; Andrew M. Roy and Charles Gordon, Utica; Ralph E. Crabill, Elmira; Tom Walsh, Binghamton; J. Meyer Schine and Louis Schine, Gloversville; Sidney Kallet, Oneida.

Legion Tie-in Set for Philadelphia Campaign

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 5.—One of the most effective advertising, publicity and exploitation campaigns is now under way here for the industry's Sixth War Loan Drive, with a meeting scheduled for Monday, Nov. 13, by exhibitor state chairmen Ben Fertel of Eastern Pennsylvania, Isidor Epstein of Southern New Jersey, and A. J. DeFiore of Delaware.

The campaign got under way with a series of letters to all exhibitors in the area, announcing the meeting. All exchanges were supplied with a rubber stamp imprinted with "Luncheon —Hotel Warwick—12:30 sharp," to be used in every exhibitor's booking book.

One-sheets, announcing the opening of the drive, were displayed in all schools and American Legion Posts. Boys and girls who sell the greatest amount of bonds will receive special Legion honor medals.

Advertising and exploitation are being handled by Irving Blumberg of Warners and Sid Weiss of 20th Century-Fox, assisting the state exhibitor chairmen.

Brandt Seeks Checks To Pay Kit Expense

Major and independent circuit operators have been urged to support the industry's Sixth War Loan Drive with nominal checks to defray the cost of the special exploitation kits which are now being mailed to theatres throughout the country.

In a bulletin to all circuit operators, state exhibitor and publicity chairmen, Harry Brandt, national committee chairman, said, "During the Fifth War Loan Drive, advertising kits were sent to all theatres with the request that exhibitors contribute $1 per theatre to help defray the cost, which most did. In the current drive it is necessary to follow the same procedure."

Each kit contains two 40 x 60 pictorial posters in two styles; two pictorial one-sheets and a complete press book. Press books and mats of the cuts appearing in same may be obtained from National Screen Service exchanges.

Hitler Bond Purchase Sought by Trailer

PORTLAND, Nov. 5.—Harry Brandt, national chairman of the industry Sixth War loan drive, has been urged by Oregon state exhibitor chairman, O. J. Miller to make a special Sixth War Loan trailer of the speech made by Lt. Louis R. Largey, war hero of Tarawa, as a result of tremendous reaction to the talk. Miller told Brandt, "I believe after hearing Lt. Largey's talk, even Hitler would buy a U. S. War Bond." Miller also promised more bond premieres, more children's matinees and more free movies on Dec. 7, than had ever been given before in the territory.

Bader Back from Trip Covering 7,500 Miles

Dave Bader, loaned to the Sixth War Loan by 20th Century-Fox, returned to New York over the weekend after completing a 7,500-mile trip as advance man for the national committee. Bader, who is returning to his 20th-Fox desk as trade paper publicity contact, traveled three weeks, mostly by air, covering Los Angeles, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Omaha, Kansas City, Chicago, Louisville, Cleveland, Detroit, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, New Haven, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Gamble Saves Committee

Attempting to leave Louisville for the meeting in Pittsburgh, members of the national committee for the Sixth War Loan Drive, Harry Brandt, Capt. Ray Wild, Lieut. Lewis Largey, Ned Depinet, John Hertz, Jr., Jack Kirsch and Edward Bobe, were stranded when their train left one-half hour earlier.

With no other train scheduled to take them to Pittsburgh, Brandt phoned Ted Gamble, National Director of the War Finance Department of the Treasury, and was afforded the use of an Army transport, which got them there in two hours.

Agnew Names Josephson

Neil Agnew, in charge of Industry Sixth War Loan sales in the East, has appointed Gilbert Josephson to handle subscriptions from members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association and their employes.

Warner ABP Stock Is Not for Sale

(*Continued from page 1*)

that the syndicate hoped to acquire the Warner interest in ABP, as well.

Warners hold a management contract with ABP, the continuation of which is understood here to be related essentially to the Warner ownership of ABP securities.

It is widely recognized that the ABP circuit of more than 300 theatres owes a great deal to Milder's contributions in the capacity of joint managing director, as well as to its link with Warners, which supplies the circuit with its best product.

Disclosure of the agreement reached by the syndicate for the purchase of Mrs. Maxwell's 25 per cent ABP interest resulted in widespread surprise and some bewilderment.

It was reported in New York at the weekend that Arthur Jarratt, in charge of film buying for Associated British Pictures Corp., is en route here from London on undisclosed mission. Speculation centered on whether or not his visit is related to the London banking syndicate's reported hope of acquiring Warner's ABP interest.

RCA 9-Month Net Is Down; Gross Up

The Radio Corporation of America's net income for the first nine months of 1944 after provision for all taxes and other charges was $6,734,670 as compared with $7,435,025 for a similar period in 1943, or a decrease of $700,354, it was announced at the weekend.

Total gross income for the first nine months of 1944 was $239,936,717, or an increase of $21,695,816 over the $218,240,901 grossed during the similar period in 1943. Provision for Federal taxes amounted to $21,745,500 for the first nine months of 1944, as against $20,877,900 for the corresponding period in 1943, an increase of $867,600.

RCA's portion of net income resulting from war production is subject to renegotiation by the Government, according to the statement of income issued by Lt. General James G. Harbord, chairman of the board. After payment of deferred dividends, earnings applicable to common stock for the first nine months this year were 31.5 cents per share, compared with 36.3 cents a share for the similar period in 1943.

MITCHELL MAY, Jr. CO., INC.
INSURANCE
•
Specializing in requirements of the Motion Picture Industry
75 Maiden Lane, New York
510 W. 6th St., Los Angeles

Production in Steady Pace; 46 Shooting

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 5. — Production maintained its level last week, as seven features were completed, and eight others started. The shooting index remained at 46.

The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Leave It to Blondie," with Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake, Larry Simms, Danny Mummert and Marjorie Ann Mutchie.

Shooting: "I Love a Mystery," "Our Wandering Daughters," "One Against Seven" (formerly "Counter-attack").

M-G-M

Shooting: "Without Love," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Hold High the Torch," "Women's Army," "Son of Lassie," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Started: "The Cisco Kid Comes Through," with Duncan Renaldo, Martin Garralaga, Roger Pryor, Vicki Lane and Emmett Lynn.

Shooting: "John Dillinger."

Paramount

Finished: "Salty O'Rourke," "Miss Susie Slagle."

Shooting: "The Lost Weekend," "The Love Letters," "The Affairs of Susan," "Duffy's Tavern."

PRC

Finished: "Marked for Murder."

Started: "Crime, Inc.," with Leo Carrillo, Tom Neal, Martha Tilton, Lionel Atwill, Grant Mitchell and Leonard Sheldon.

Shooting: "Fog Island."

RKO Radio

Finished: "West of the Pecos."

Shooting: "The Body Snatcher," "The Enchanted Cottage," "Isle of the Dead" (temporarily suspended), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn), "Tarzan and the Amazons" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "A Daring Holiday."

Started: "Jealousy," with John Loder, Jane Randolph, Karen Morley, Nils Asther and Huga Haas; "Moonlight and Roses," with Brad Taylor, Jane Frazee and Amelita Ward.

Shooting: "The Phantom Speaks," "Earl Carroll Vanities."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Hangover Square."

Started: "A Bell for Adano," with Gene Tierney, John Hodiak, William Bendix, Richard Conte and Glenn Langan; "Molly, Bless Her," with Monty Woolley, Gracie Fields, Roddy McDowell and Reginald Gardiner.

Shooting: "Circumstantial Evidence," "Bon Voyage," (temporarily suspended), "A Royal Scandal," "Where Do We Go From Here?" "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe."

United Artists

Finished: "Hold Autumn in Your Hand" (PAC).

Shooting: "A Walk in the Sun" (Bronston), "Blood on the Sun" (Cagney).

Warners

Started: "Song of the Sarong," with Nancy Kelly, Samuel S. Hinds, William Gargan and George Dolenz.

Shooting: "Here Come the Co-Eds," "Salome—Where She Danced," "Frisco Sal," "She Gets Her Man."

Universal

Shooting: "The Big Sleep," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Nobody Lives Forever," "San Antonio."

Schlanger Feast Off, Grew Too Big

Philadelphia, Nov. 5. — The dinner to be tendered Ted Schlanger, Stanley-Warner Theatres zone chief, in March, has been postponed indefinitely. The affair was assuming such proportions it threatened to conflict with Office of Defense Transportation measures to prevent unnecessary travel, sponsors of the affair stated. Schlanger, a veteran in both distribution and exhibition, was to have been honored on his tenth anniversary as S. W. zone leader here.

Mexico To Make Operatic Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

per picture or approximately twice the average cost of the Mexican "A" film. Operas to be done are "Aida," "Elizir D'Amore," "Trovatore," "Rigoletto," "Don Pasquale" and "Carmen." Singers who may appear include Tito Guizar, Salvatore Baccaloni, Florence George, Lily Pons, Richard Bonelli, Giovanni Martinelli Winifred Heidt and Elizabeth Wysor. These singers will also appear in the season of the Mexican Opera and will be given houses and all expenses, including transportation, while in Mexico. Half of the capital is from the Mexican Government and the other half American Oil Company capital. The American Oil Company also will open negotiations next week with the National Broadcasting Co. for a radio program in Mexico of 13 weeks, which will be sponsored by the company, using the Mexican National Symphony and the opera stars as guest soloists.

Films will be made under the direction of Miguel Silkind, former UFA producer, now in Mexico, with American technicians and cameramen. Release arrangements in the U. S. will be taken up by De Quesada on his next visit in late December. Quesada's representative in New York is Arnold Pisani, formerly of the Bing Crosby office on the Coast.

Salvage 300 M-G-M Prints in France

Henri Lartigue, a director of M-G-M's French company, who has been named to take temporary charge of its operation there, managed to salvage 300 M-G-M prints, including "Gone With the Wind."

M-G-M is ready to resume its business in France and is only waiting approval from OWI, with Lartigue heading the operation until Laudy Lawrence, at present with the OWI, can resume as M-G-M European manager.

Sixty Allied Films Shown in Paris

Although their motion picture attendance is severely limited by the critical shortage of electricity in Paris, Parisians are according the 60 films, especially American, brought into the city by the Allied Information Service an enthusiastic reception, weekend press dispatches from Paris reported. American films constitute 40 of the 60, with 17 British and three Russian. Films are shown only after 9:30 p.m. three days a week, afternoons and evenings weekends, and not at all Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Among the 40 Hollywood films are "Here Comes Mr. Jordan," "Tales of Manhattan," "The Human Comedy," "Pride and Prejudice," "Abe Lincoln in Illinois," "Our Town," "Sergeant York" and "Watch on the Rhine." British films include "In Which We Serve," "One of Our Aircraft Is Missing" and "San Demetrio, London." The Russian films are war documentaries.

There are some Hollywood musicals, too, for the French film industry made no musicals during the occupation, and patriotic Frenchmen stayed away from the German films.

Mexico City Prices Subject of Inquiry

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 5.—First-run theatres here are under attack by the municipal government and the Mexican Senate for alleged exorbitant admissions. First-runs are charging 85 cents, a record for Mexico City, where workers' average monthly earnings are only $45. Senatorial and municipal government committees are investigating the charges with a view to compelling exhibitors to reduce them. Theatre owners contend that prices are in keeping with higher operating expenses.

The city treasury department estimates that 1944 will be a record year for theatres, with the 78 theatres here expected to sell at least 30,000,000 tickets for a gross of slightly over $10,000,000. This compares to 20,000,000 tickets sold in 1937, at average admissions of 30 cents, and 25,000,000 in 1941, with a 45-cent average.

Disney Office Hears From French Mgr.

Wallace Feignoux, Walt Disney's Paris representative, has communicated with the Disney office here and reported that offices and the studio used for dubbing are intact. "Snow White" was the last Disney picture shown in France. A print of "Pinocchio" was shipped to France before the German occupation, but was never shown.

Upon completion of French dubbing of "Pinocchio" it will probably be released in France and Belgium. William Levy, formerly managing director for Great Britain and European supervisor, plans to go to London, and possibly the Continent, when transportation can be arranged.

Senator Turns Producer

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 5. — Franco Urias, Federal senator, has entered film production. He will also continue in legislation. His first will be a film biography of the late Maestro Miguel Lerdo de Tejada, composer-director.

Films up 50% In Venezuela

Theatre business in Venezuela has registered a 50 per cent increase in the last three years, much of which has been absorbed by Spanish-language films, Stanley Day, 20th Century-Fox's manager in that country, disclosed recently while here for the first time in four years for a vacation and conferences with international department executives. Day said that the gains have not been reflected in revenue of American companies.

When exhibitors can obtain theatre equipment, especially projectors, business will advance even further, he said. Ten theatres are under construction or have been completed this year, and many more will be built when the equipment situation eases.

Almost 50 per cent of first-run playing time is devoted to Spanish-language films, with the percentage even higher in the subsequents. Top Spanish films gross three times as much as American films, Day said.

Spanish product has served to create a market in places where films were non-existent. "Dubbing has great possibilities, especially where illiteracy is high," Day observed. He will return to Venezuela about Nov. 25.

Luporini to Italy In 20th-Fox Post

(*Continued from page* 1)

as a passport can be obtained from the State Department and will proceed to get 20th's Italian company in readiness for the day when the operation there, at present under the Psychological Warfare Division, is returned to company control. He will operate under the supervision of Ben Miggins, European manager.

Probability exists that 20th-Fox, whose pre-war Italian dubbing was performed by another company in Italy, will operate its own dubbing studio. Bruno Fuchs, former manager in Rome, has communicated with the home office, reporting that he is ready to aid in reestablishing its office there.

Columbia Australian Production Soon

Columbia will produce a feature picture in Australia based on the life of Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith, deceased Australian air hero of the past decade. Film will be the first made in Australia by a major company employing Australian technical and artistic talent exclusively.

The picture will be started about the middle of November and will be made at Cinesound Studios. It will be directed by Ken Hall, Australian director. Columbia's managing director in Australia, N. P. Pery, will supervise. Film is expected to be completed by mid-January and Columbia will distribute it internationally. Casting is under way in Australia now.

Iris to Produce

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 5.—Espernaza Iris, former operatic comedienne who became a film actress and operator of a first-run theatre, is now organizing her own production company to begin operating early in 1945.

Sh!...
I'm a secret
Weapon!
"Sh! . . . I'm a Secret Weapon . . . on the home front . . . for showmen . . . and once I'm touched off . . . with a signature . . . you can hear my bang all over town . . . Men set me off who want to get some boom in their theatre-business . . . and when I do my stuff . . . doormen come too . . . with an S.R.O. sign in their hands . . . The ticket-vending machine is shaken into action too . . . and you should see the seats turn down all over the house . . . each holding a nice cash customer . . . but Sh! . . . keep this to yourself . . . I never hurt anybody in my life . . . the only thing I ever kill . . . is headaches."
PLAY TAPS FOR THE JAPS WITH
SIXTH WAR LOAN SHOWMANSHIP!
NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

A SCREEN TREAT YOU MUST NOT MISS!

ROY ROGERS

KING OF THE COWBOYS

TRIGGER

SMARTEST HORSE IN THE MOVIES

"LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE"

Featuring GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES

and DALE EVANS

LLOYD CORRIGAN • RICHARD POWERS

CLAIRE DU BREY

and BOB NOLAN

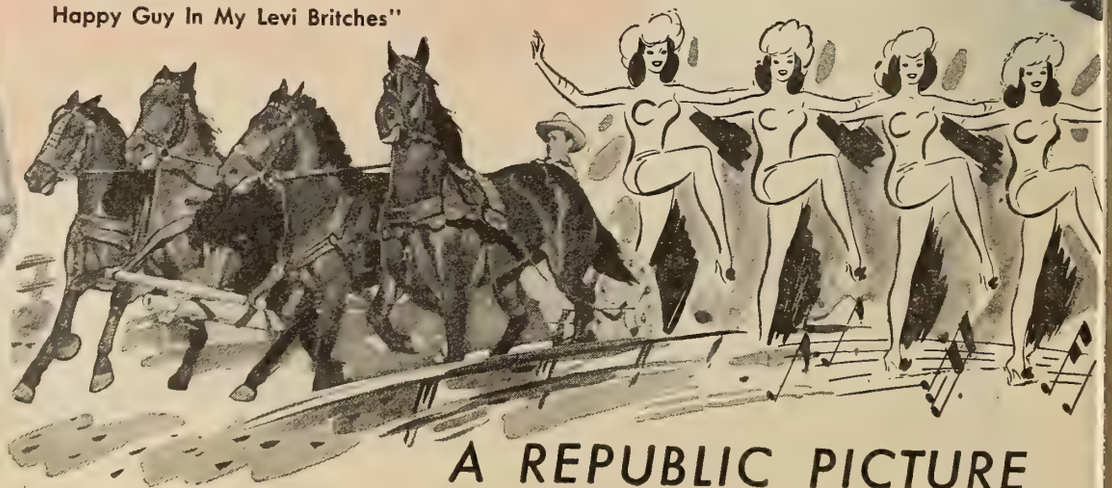
and THE SONS OF THE PIONEERS

FRANK McDONALD, Director

Original Screenplay by Gordon Kahn and Bob Williams

SONGS...

"Amor" • "The Nerve of Some People" "Lights of Old Santa Fe" • "Cowboy Jubilee" "Ride 'Em Cowboy" • "Trigger Hasn't Got A Purty Figger" • "Cowpoke Polka" • "I'm A Happy Guy In My Levi Britches"



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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 89 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1944 TEN CENTS

Dembow Quits Para. for New Golden Post

Hyman to Succeed Him; Fellerman Will Assist

Sam Dembow, Jr., vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp. has resigned, effective Dec. 1, to become president of Edward A. Golden Productions, it was announced here Monday by Barney Balaban, Paramount president.

The appointment of Edward L. Hyman to succeed Dembow at Paramount was announced by Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatre operations. Goldenson also announced that Max Fellerman has joined the company to be assistant to Hyman in his new duties. Hyman will be in charge of Paramount theatre operations in the Northern section of the U. S. He formerly was an associate of Dembow.

In announcing Dembow's resigna-

(*Continued on page* 10)

12,000 Theatres in 'Free-Movie Day'

Members of the War Activities Committee of the industry's Sixth War Loan Drive have returned to New York with 13 of the scheduled 19 regional key city meetings already behind them. National drive chairman Harry Brandt stated yesterday that more than 4,500 showmen attended the various meetings and the pledges received indicate that between 10,000-12,000 theatres will ac-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Decree and WAC on Wisc. ITO Agenda

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 7.—The consent decree proposals pending in New York and the postwar continuance of the industry's war activities committee will highlight discussions at the sixth annual convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, to be held at the Schroeder Hotel here Thursday and Friday, president William Ainsworth revealed today. The consent decree discussions will take the form of a closed meeting Friday to be aired by Martin G. Smith, national president of Allied; Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel; Pete

(*Continued on page* 10)

Business Rebounds at Close of Election

Theatre business in scores of places picked up considerably on Election Eve and yesterday, with wired reports from the field last night indicating that returns on the Presidential voting announced periodically during the day in hundreds of film houses brought extra crowds to theatres, while the school holiday resulted in heavy matinee business from youngsters.

B. and K.'s station WBKB, Chicago, was the first circuit to telecast election returns, yesterday.

Holiday Helps N.Y. First-run Houses; 'Master Race' Big

Aided by both good weekend business and the Election Day holiday, New York's first-run theatres are, generally, recording profitable grosses this week. Of the new arrivals, "The Master Race" finished an outstanding first week at the Palace last night with about $32,000 but "I Love a Soldier," at the Paramount, combined with a stage presentation featuring Tony Pastor and band and Bert Wheeler, Marion Hutton and Hal LeRoy, scored a moderate $64,000 in a first week. Both films are continuing.

Holdover films at Radio City Music

(*Continued on page* 7)

WPB to Deny Making More Booth Parts

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—Faced with the continuance of the European war through the coming Winter, the War Production Board is denying any expansion in the production of civilian goods involving materials and components needed by the military, but is planning to permit the use of excess materials under the "spot authorization" plan, it was learned here today.

As a result of the adoption of this policy, it is understood, the program for theatre booth equipment for the first quar-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Canada Code to Be In Effect by '45

TORONTO, Nov. 7.—A new conciliation code for the Canadian industry is expected to be in force across the Dominion before the end of the year, it was stated here yesterday following a meeting of the general managers of the film exchanges.

While no final decision was reached on approving the draft of the code that has been drawn up, it was announced that the deliberations had not encountered a snag and that the signing of an agreement is scheduled to take place on or before Friday.

Extended Runs Again Jam New Releases in Midwest

CHICAGO, Nov. 7.—The Loop's first-run houses, due to continuing extended runs, have again become a bottleneck for new product ready and awaiting release in first-runs.

Paramount releases its top product regularly to the Chicago and State Lake theatres, but the eight-week run of "Going My Way" in those houses, however, has forced the company to hold up the entire first block of the new season, with the second block's first release, "Frenchman's Creek," held back until "Since You Went Away" is ready to move out of the State Lake.

Curent showing of "Wilson" at the Apollo will hold up 20th Fox's third block, originally scheduled for October release. Warner releases are similarly affected. RKO and Universal are in a somewhat better shape, the Palace and Grand giing their product a faster turnover. Republic benefits by its first-run deal with the Oriental, and all of its potential Loop product is getting a comparatively early play. Among Republic's latest already released here are "Storm Over Lisbon" and "Faces in the Fog."

M-G-M has has several top films waiting for an outlet, among them "Kismet," "An American Romance," and "Mrs. Parkington." Last-minute program changes at RKO last week enabled M-G-M to slip "Waterloo Bridge" into the Grand, and United Artists dispatched its long delayed "Abroad With Two Yanks" into the Palace.

High Court Is Intrigued by Crescent Case

Justices Ask Frequent Questions of Counsel

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—The Supreme Court today had the Crescent Amusement Co. anti-trust suit under consideration, with prospects that it would hand down an opinion late this month or early in December, after devoting part of yesterday and today to the presentation of argument by the Department of Justice and the defendants.

While the only issue involved in the Government's appeal, the Court was told by Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, who argued the case for the Department of Justice, is that of broadening the injunction granted by the District Court so as to require the defendants to justify any future acquisitions of theatres in advance of

(*Continued on page* 10)

Davis Leaves Here For Odeon Deal

John Davis, theatre emissary of J. Arthur Rank, newly-arrived from London, left New York yesterday for Toronto to set final details of a deal whereby Rank would acquire a 50 per cent interest in the 80 theatres of the Odeon Theatres circuit of Canada, headed by Paul Nathanson. Davis arrived after several weeks' delay due to Atlantic storms, and said final de-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Warter to Become ABP Chairman

LONDON, Nov. 7.—Philip A. Warter, director of Associated British Pictures Corp. and a member of the syndicate here which has contracted to buy the 25 per cent interest in the company held by Mrs. John Maxwell, his mother-in-law, will become chairman of ABP as soon as he obtains release from his wartime position with the Board of Trade, it was learned here today.

Arthur Jarratt, ABP booking man-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Lights of Old Santa Fe", Republic, will be found on page 7.

Personal Mention

F. J. A. McCARTHY, Universal Southern and Canadian sales manager, left New York yesterday for Dallas and Oklahoma City and is expected to return next week.

•

BARNETT SHAPIRO, Monogram attorney, has returned to Hollywood from Washington following conferences with Internal Revenue officials in connection with salary stabilization in the film industry.

•

HARRY N. BLAIR, director of advertising and publicity for PRC in New York, spent Thursday in Waterbury, Conn., with PAUL O. KLINGER, manager of Loew's Strand.

•

WILLIAM BRISCOE, of the RKO managerial staff, Chicago, will be out of action the next three months due to a serious knee injury.

•

MORRIS SAFNER, Central Falls, Rhode Island exhibitor, is a patient in Boston following an abdominal operation.

•

TOMMY READ, city manager for Lucas and Jenkins, Atlanta, has returned there from a business trip to New York.

•

LOU MAYER, manager of RKO's Palace, Chicago, is the father of a daughter, MYRA LOU, born at Mt. Sinai Hospital, Chicago.

•

EDITH WEINER, Columbia bookkeeper in Philadelphia, and SGT. SIDNEY WARREN, were married in that city last week.

•

HARRY GRAHAM, Southern district manager of Universal is in Florida on business.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal Western sales manager, will leave for Los Angeles today.

•

TOM BAIRD, director of the film division of British Information Services here has returned from London.

•

BEN KATZ, Universal's Midwest publicity chief, is back in Chicago following a week in New York.

•

CHARLES P. LESTER, division manager for National Screen Service at Atlanta is on a tour of his territory.

•

MAX FINN, general manager for E. M. Loew's in New England, was a recent Hartford, Conn., visitor.

•

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, president of United Artists, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

TOM KENNEDY, Film Classics salesman in Philadelphia, was inducted into the Armed Services last week.

•

CONSTANCE BENNETT arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

FRANK HENSLER, M-G-M Kansas City manager, is in New York.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 7

IT'S old hat now to revive the reasons behind the extended-run deal recently whipped into shape by M-G-M with Fox West Coast. Metro had felt its major attractions rated more playing time than the average seven-day which Charlie Skouras was providing at the Chinese, Loew's State and Uptown, plus the Carthay Circle as occasional fourth day-and-date run or moveover. This is how and why the latest three-ply setup composed of the Egyptian, the Los Angeles and Ritz got going. There is a reason for repainting the background, however.

■

If present plans jell, the triangular arrangement will flower in another direction. Paramount contemplates building a third theatre here when materials and time allow. The sprawling Wilshire district is the probable area, and the purpose would be to give the company a three-way, first run hookup of its own. Today, it's the Downtown Paramount and a second namesake theatre on Hollywood Boulevard.

Embroyonic, however, is the word for all this. Lurking in the background and evidently about to move dramatically into the foreground now is the consent decree. How far with theatre expansion and how much on the part of producer-exhibitors are yet to be determined.

But this has nothing to do with ideas and conditional plans.

■ ■

Strain between Paramount and Bob Hope traces to the latter's desire to make an outside picture a year while under Paramount contract. For such a purpose, Hope reportedly would organize a separate company to cover each of the outside ventures. Not precluded, moreover, is the possibility Paramount might distribute. But the company does not rise to the occasion, reminds Hope where his obligations reside, point out that, if and when he appears in any film, that film must carry the Paramount label.

With purposeful vagueness, at this point the studio talks generally about taking steps to protect its rights. What kind of steps? They don't say.

■

While on a roundup of things stirring on that same lot, there is another situation of import hanging fire. Bing Crosby is yet to sign the new contract which awaits him.

Where the dividing line may be correctly drawn between the desire to become independent and the desire to create the best possible tax situation under existing laws will bend and twist under the impact of colliding viewpoints. But there is no trouble whatsoever in recognizing a condition when it takes shape.

The current condition, and it will become a more general one, finds producers, stars and directors breaking away from major studios for pastures of their own. The list is growing: William Goetz, Jimmy Cagney, Sam Wood, Nunnally Johnson, Gary Cooper, Hal Wallis, Buddy De Sylva, Don Ameche, Fred Mac Murray, Mervyn Le Roy and now Jack Chertok and Mark Hellinger.

Others are on the way.

■ ■

The executive who tells it also tells he was responsible for it.

Costs had been leaning toward that out-of-control phase, and something had to be done. In one instance, this was done:

After appealing to a director who was confusing art with commerce, the executive got precisely nowhere. Then he called for the script. Then he opened it toward the close. Then he tore out a handful of pages. Then he instructed the director to finish the picture with what was left.

The director did. And no one ever discovered the difference.

■ ■

Bill Goetz likes to narrate the incident about a star who once had seen better days. A job finally came the Thespian's way. He was to go rugged, more so than the chassis could take.

"I can't do that kind of stuff anymore," he complained to the producer.

"Why waste my time then? I told you in the beginning it was a sea picture."

"Sea picture? I thought you said 'C' picture."

■ ■

Proving he could never have been a monarchist at heart, Mervyn Le Roy was inspecting after-luncheon smokes the other day. The brands were limited to a brace, one of them "Charles the Great." As his companion reached for one, Le Roy cracked:

"Not that one. That guy hasn't had a job in years."

■ ■

Another chance for Eddie, the Golden Boy:

Having switched "Miss Susie Slagle's" to "The Golden Years," Paramount is back to the original with one dynamic change: the final consonant drops in favor of unadorned "Miss Susie Slagle." In open country once more is "The Golden Years."

Consolidated Shows Net of $278,121

Consolidated Film Industries reports profit of $479,520, before federal taxes for the third quarter ended Sept. 30. Estimated taxes amount to $201,398, leaving a net of $278,121, which compares with a net of $221,524 for the same period of 1943.

Per share earnings for the third quarter are equivalent to 50 cents of the 400,000 shares of preferred stock and 15 cents on the 524,973 shares of common, which compares with 50 cents on the preferred and four cents on the common in the same quarter of 1943. Earnings are subject to renegotiation provisions of the National Defense Appropriation Act.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
SUPER-SHOCK SENSATION!
"THE MASTER RACE"
George COULOURIS Stanley RIDGES
Osa MASSEN Carl ESMOND

Paramount presents
PAULETTE SONNY GODDARD TUFTS
in
"I LOVE A SOLDIER"
In Person
TONY PASTOR and his Band
BERT WHEELER
MARION HUTTON
HAL LEROY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

STATE
ON SCREEN 2nd WEEK
DAVID O. SELZNICK'S
'SINCE YOU WENT AWAY'
IN PERSON
WILL OSBORNE and ORCH.
RAY ENGLISH
OTHERS

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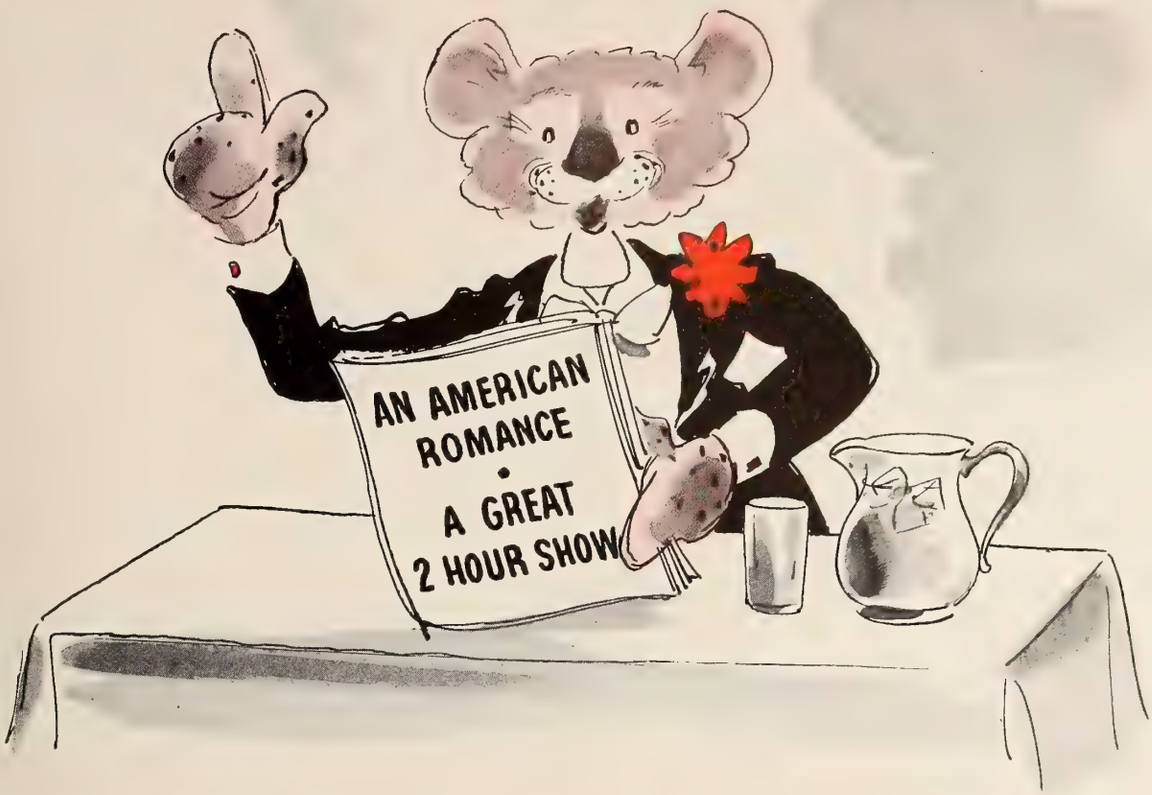


REPORT TO THE NATION!

"Mr. Exhibitor . . .
Here are box-office FACTS!
Here's a city-by-city record
of my great new hit—
'AN AMERICAN ROMANCE'!
TWO HOURS of two-fisted
entertainment in
exciting Technicolor
that's enthralling the
folks in big towns and
small towns . . ."

(next page)

A CROSS-SECTION OF 125 FIRST ENGAGEMENTS BEATS M-G-M's BIGGEST!

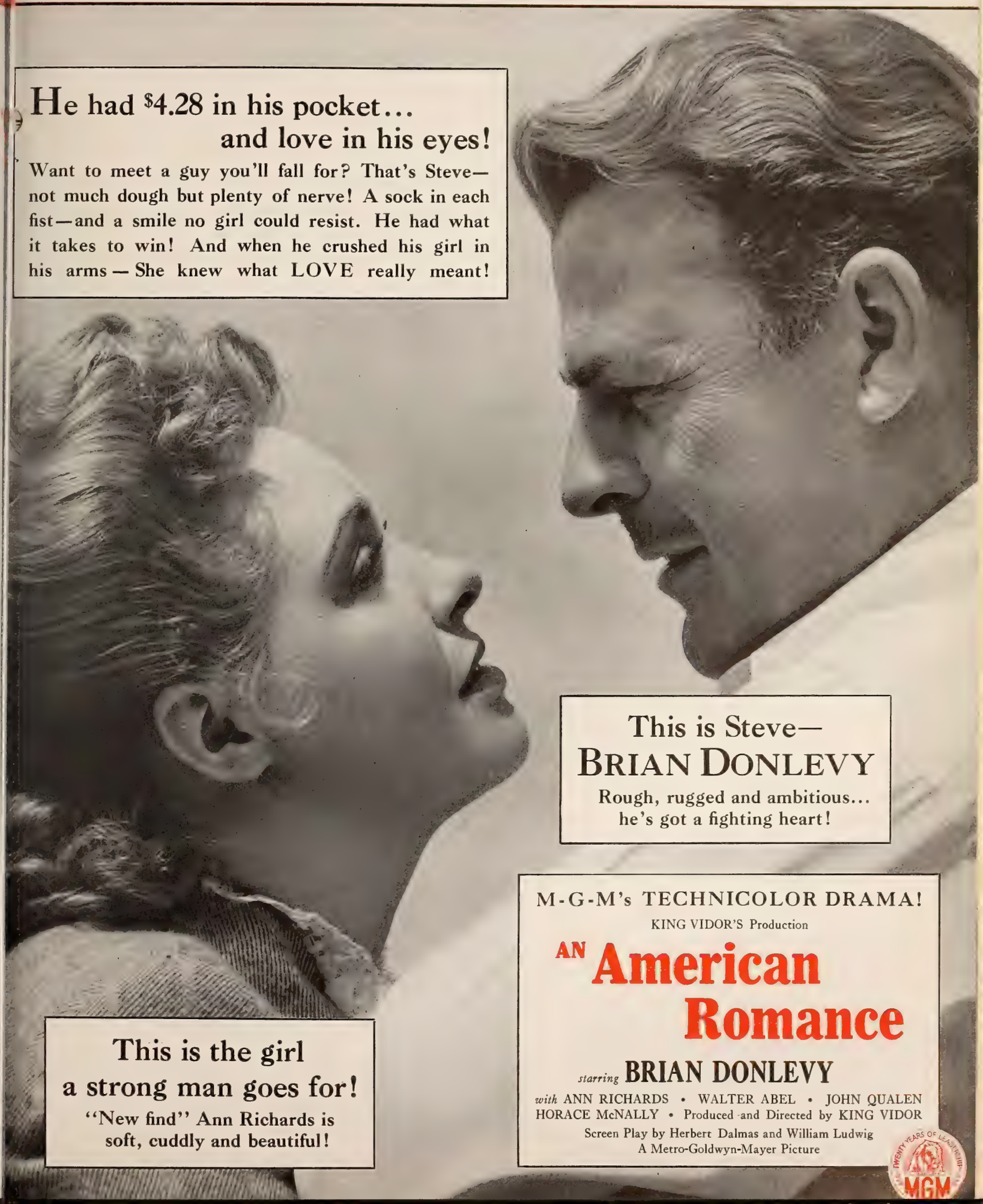
Sure-fire Hit in Big Towns and Small Towns!

"AN AMERICAN ROMANCE"

TOLEDO, O.—beats Two Girls and A Sailor
LEXINGTON, Ky.—beats Private Hargrove
MUNCIE, Ind.—beats Dragon Seed
RICHMOND, Va.—beats Dragon Seed
NEWARK, O.—beats Random Harvest
LAFAYETTE, Ind.—beats holiday business Curie
ATHENS, O.—beats White Cliffs
PIQUA, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
ZANESVILLE, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
HUNTINGTON, W. Va.—beats Seventh Cross
MONTGOMERY, O.—beats Private Hargrove
BLUEFIELD, W. Va.—equals White Cliffs
PORTSMOUTH, O.—beats White Cliffs
CHARLESTON, W. Va.—beats Gaslight
CELINA, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
WELLSTON, O.—beats White Cliffs
ST. MARY'S, O.—beats White Cliffs
WILMINGTON, O.—beats White Cliffs
GREENVILLE, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
XENIA, O.—beats Private Hargrove
CIRCLEVILLE, O.—beats White Cliffs
LONDON, O.—beats White Cliffs
SIDNEY, O.—beats Private Hargrove
NORTHFORK, W. Va.—beats A Guy Named Joe
CARROLLTON, O.—beats White Cliffs
CHILLICOTHE, O.—beats White Cliffs
HAMILTON, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
MIDDLETOWN, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
PT. PLEASANT, W. Va.—also beats Joe
LAWRENCEBURG, Ind.—equals White Cliffs
WILLIAMSON, W. Va.—beats White Cliffs
MIDDLESBORO, Ky.—beats White Cliffs
PIKEVILLE, Ky.—beats A Guy Named Joe
DANVILLE, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
WAR, W. Va.—beats A Guy Named Joe
LEWISBURG, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
URBANA, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
WAPAKONETA, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
BECKLEY, W. Va.—beats Bathing Beauty
HILLSBORO, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
JACKSON, O.—beats White Cliffs
POMEROY, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
MT. STERLING, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
MARTIN, Ky.—beats A Guy Named Joe
NICHOLASVILLE, Ky.—beats Private Hargrove
STAMFORD, Ky.—beats A Guy Named Joe
TROY, O.—beats White Cliffs
MARIETTA, O.—beats White Cliffs
CORBIN, Ky.—equals Private Hargrove
MARYSVILLE, O.—beats White Cliffs
BELLEFONTAINE, O.—beats White Cliffs
PARIS, Ky.—beats White Cliffs
RICHMOND, O.—beats White Cliffs
WASH. CT. HOUSE, O.—equals Hargrove
SHELBY, O.—beats White Cliffs
KENTON, O.—beats Private Hargrove
DELAWARE, O.—beats White Cliffs
MT. VERNON, O.—beats Private Hargrove
TIFFIN, O.—beats White Cliffs
WOOSTER, O.—beats Private Hargrove
UPPER SANDUSKY, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
CALDWELL, O.—beats White Cliffs
FOSTORIA, O.—beats White Cliffs
BRYAN, O.—beats White Cliffs
FREMONT, O.—beats A Guy Named Joe
MARION, O.—beats White Cliffs
LIMA, O.—beats White Cliffs
MANSFIELD, O.—beats Private Hargrove
TIPTON, Ind.—beats Private Hargrove
BLOOMINGTON, Ind.—beats A Guy Named Joe
NOBELSVILLE, Ind.—beats A Guy Named Joe

THEY SOLD TICKETS WITH PUNCH COPY!

Here are the Ad angles that get the crowds!



BECAUSE
a cross-section of America's
Box-offices have established it as
a sensational hit and because
of its nationwide acclaim

THEREFORE
in order to make possible its
immediate availability, it
will be included in our current
Group Number Nine

BOOK IT NOW!

M-G-M's

AN American Romance

★

"KNOCKOUT NINE" BECOMES "TERRIFIC TEN"!

THE SEVENTH CROSS
BARBARY COAST GENT
WATERLOO BRIDGE
KISMET
MRS. PARKINGTON
MAISIE GOES TO RENO
MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR
LOST IN A HAREM
NAUGHTY MARIETTA

plus AN AMERICAN ROMANCE

NEWS!

Bonds Buy Bombs
Sock 'Em With The

Holiday Helps N.Y. First-run Houses; 'Master Race' Big

(Continued from page 1)

Hall, the Capitol, Strand and Hollywood are continuing to draw. Music Hall expects a big $122,000 for the fourth week of "Mrs. Parkington" and its "American Rhapsody" stage show. This is close to the third week's gross; the combination will continue.

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" and a stage bill featuring Arlene Francis, Johnnie Johnston, Ella Mae Morse and Bob Strong and his orchestra are expected to bring the Capitol a good $70,000 on a second week and the program will be held for one more.

The booking of Jimmy Dorsey and his orchestra and Henny Youngman to start Nov. 16 with "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" makes it impossible to hold the current Capitol show beyond three weeks.

The third week of "The Conspirators" and Les Brown and band is expected to bring the Strand about $42,000; it will hold. "To Have and Have Not" is proving a sturdy grosser at the Hollywood with $36,000 expected for the fourth week.

$72,000 for 'Laura'

"Laura" and a stage show drew a big $72,000 for the final six days of a fourth week at the Roxy; "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," combined with a stage show featuring Ray Bolger and Gracie Barrie opened yesterday. A profitable $23,000 was recorded for the second week of "Rainbow Island" at the Criterion; "Lost in a Harem" will open there this morning. "Frenchman's Creek" at the Rivoli and "Kismet" at the Astor are still proving profitable. The seventh week of "Creek" at the Rivoli brought $40,000, while the 11th week of "Kismet" gave the Astor $16,000.

Elsewhere, "Summer Storm" is expected to bring a moderate $14,000 for a third week at the Gotham and it will continue. "Abroad With Two Yanks" is holding for a final three days of a third week at the Globe after drawing about $15,000 in its second week. "The Great Moment" will open at the Globe Saturday. The return engagement of "Waterloo Bridge" at the Republic is expected to bring $9,000 for a second week and will continue. The second and final week of "Murder in the Blue Room" is expected to give the Rialto about $7,000 and "The Mark of the Whistler" will open Friday. "Wilson" is continuing at the Victoria although the sixth week's figure is down to $7,000.

Loew's Pays First Pension Benefits

First benefits under operation of Loew's 'Employes' Retirement Plan' are being paid to survivors of employes in the home office, studio, theatre department and the branch in Indianapolis. The pension plan committee is now paying the beneficiaries benefits which accrued under the plan.

Deceased employes are: Jack Flack of the studio; Irene Weber Sadel, secretary to Carter Barron, Loew's division manager in Washington; Ruth Reeves Sipe, M-G-M branch office cashier in Indianapolis, and Mrs. Margaret Reid, home office switchboard operator.

Review

"Lights of Old Santa Fe"

(Republic)

TO follow Roy Rogers' Madison Square Garden rodeo appearance, Bob Williams and Gordon Kahn have written a screen story about the troubles which might beset a rodeo outfit trying to get a big booking like that. Harry Gray's production looks a trifle impromptu, but the star and his "Sons of the Pioneers" smile and sing and ride roughshod over all deficiences as well as over the menace provided in the yarn.

Seems the Santa Fe area has two rodeos, The World Wide, an up-and-coming aggregation, owned by Richard Powers, a villain, who wants to marry his competition, Dale Evans, and combine their shows. Hers is called the International, but, stymied by the outmoded business methods of manager Gabby Hayes, it is having a time getting even as far as the state fair. Rogers happens along and falls for the 'boss lady' and is on the eve of pulling her out of the jam when a Powers henchman, Roy Barcroft, sneaks into camp and burns the wagons. Only Trigger, the horse, knows who did this, and he informs Roy just as Miss Evans is giving up her struggle and herself. They salvage the wreckage and are headed triumphantly for the Garden at the final fade.

Although Frank McDonald's direction gives only a lick and a promise to the dramatic elements, it hovers fondly over simple songs and fancy riding, which are most important. Lloyd Corrigan has a happy bit as a one-man radio program, and there's even a ballet.

Running time 78 minutes. "G"*. Release Nov. 6.

TOM LOY

*"G" denotes general classification.

Seek to Expedite Wage Boost Pleas

Exchange operational heads and representatives of the IATSE have sent Dave Halper, IATSE attorney, and Ernest Mahler of O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery, representing United Artists, to Chicago and Cleveland in an attempt to expedite decisions by Regional War Labor Boards on applications pending before them for approval of a system of job classifications and a minimum 10 per cent wage increase for film exchange "white collar" workers in the Chicago, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Cleveland and Cincinnati exchanges.

Halper and Mahler expect to be gone about a week.

Approval of the system of 18 job classifications with minimum and maximum scales and the 10 per cent wage increase, retroactive to Dec., 1943, has already been secured in New Haven, Boston, New York, Albany and Buffalo. Applications are pending before regional boards having jurisdiction over all exchange cities except Los Angeles. The Chicago Regional Board has jurisdiction over the workers in Chicago, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, and Indianapolis, while the Cleveland board has jurisdiction in that city and in Cincinnati.

The next meeting of the exchange operation heads and the IATSE to set applications for approval of a 10 per cent wage increase for film exchange service employes will not be held until Halper and Mahler return.

25th FPC Anniversary

TORONTO Nov. 7.—Famous Players Canadian will celebrate its 25th anniversary in January and will honor the 33 employes who have been with the company since its inception on Jan. 23, 1920.

Tuttle New Clerk

Frank H. Tuttle has replaced Charles Chambers as arbitration clerk in the San Francisco arbitration tribunal, effective yesterday, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Naval Tribute Set For 'Night of Stars'

A highlight of the "Night of Stars" program, set for next Tuesday evening at Madison Square Garden here, will be the "Tribute to the Pacific Fleet," in which 80 Waves will participate. The feature was arranged through the cooperation of Capt. William F. Amsden of the Waves training school Kate Smith will sing "Anchors Aweigh" and "God Bless America."

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre here, is chairman of the producing committee.

Pioneers Invited To Dec. 13 Dinner

Dedicated to pioneer exhibitors, invitations to attend the forthcoming Picture Pioneers Christmas party and dinner Dec. 13 at the Waldorf Astoria here have been sent to theatre owners throughout the country who have been in the industry 25 years or more.

Sam Dembow, Jr., is chairman of the dinner committee. Plans are being considered to present a special "Picture Pioneers Award" to the theatre owner with the greatest number of years in the indusrty.

Ricord Assistant To Fitzgerald

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 7. — W. C. Ricord, Jr., manager of Fox West Coast's district No. 5, has been appointed assistant to president Harold Fitzgerald of Fox Wisconsin; and Gordon Hewitt, who has been FWC's co-chief booker here, has been named chief booker of Fox Wisconsin. Both report to Milwaukee headquarters Nov. 15.

To Air 'U' Film Music

Jerome Kern's music from Universal's "Can't Help Singing," starring Deanna Durbin, will be aired for the first time this Sunday on Columbia Broadcasting's "Texaco Star Theatre" program, with James Melton doing the vocals.

12,000 Theatres to Have 'Free-Movie Day' Says Brandt

(Continued from page 1)

tively participate on 'National Free Movie Day,' Dec. 7, as compared with 7,770 for the Fifth War Loan and 3,403 for the fourth.

Other returning committee members were: Ned E. Depinet, William C. Crockett, John Hertz, Jr., and representatives of the Treasury and War Finance Departments. Remaining meetings are scheduled for Hartford, on Nov. 9; Boston, Nov. 10; Charlotte, Nov. 13; Philadelphia, Nov. 13; Baltimore, Nov. 14, and New York, Nov. 17.

Virginia Exhibitors Get Going on Sixth Drive

RICHMOND, Va., Nov. 7. — Virginia State exhibitors got off to a flying start at the John Marshall Hotel here for the Sixth War Loan drive with the first of four regional state meetings. Ted R. Gamble, Director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department, was guest and chief speaker. State chairman Morton G. Thalhimer of Richmond presided over the meeting which had a 100 per cent representation for this area in addition to many state theatre leaders.

Tom Baldridge of M-G-M reported on Virginia theatres' participation in the fifth Loan Drive and announced war bond awards for several exhibitors for their efforts.

Loew's Sixth Rally To Offer $1,000 Prize

A series of Sixth War Loan Drive meetings has been scheduled by Loew's to give momentum to the company's campaign, C. C. Moskowitz announced here yesterday. Tomorrow there will be a bond rally of Loew home office employees with speakers, stars and an announcement of a $1,000 bond prize for employees who participate in the bond-buying and selling drive.

Managers and district managers of Loew's New York circuit will meet tomorrow evening for a bond conference and buffet supper, while on Nov. 14, all Loew assistant managers will hold a similar dinner conference.

Seadler Advertising Consultant on Sixth

Si Seadler, M-G-M advertising manager, has again been named advertising consultant for the industry's Sixth War Loan drive. Seadler acted in a similar capacity in each of the previous drives and personally wrote all trade paper advertisements. He will work in conjunction with John Hertz, Jr., publicity-advertising chairman.

WAC Breakfast for N. Y.-N. J. Managers

The War Activities Committee, New York area, will sponsor a Sixth War Loan Breakfast at the Hotel Astor on Nov. 17 for theatre managers of the Metropolitan New York and Northern New Jersey areas, and district and exchange managers, salesmen and home office executives.

Fine Fined $250

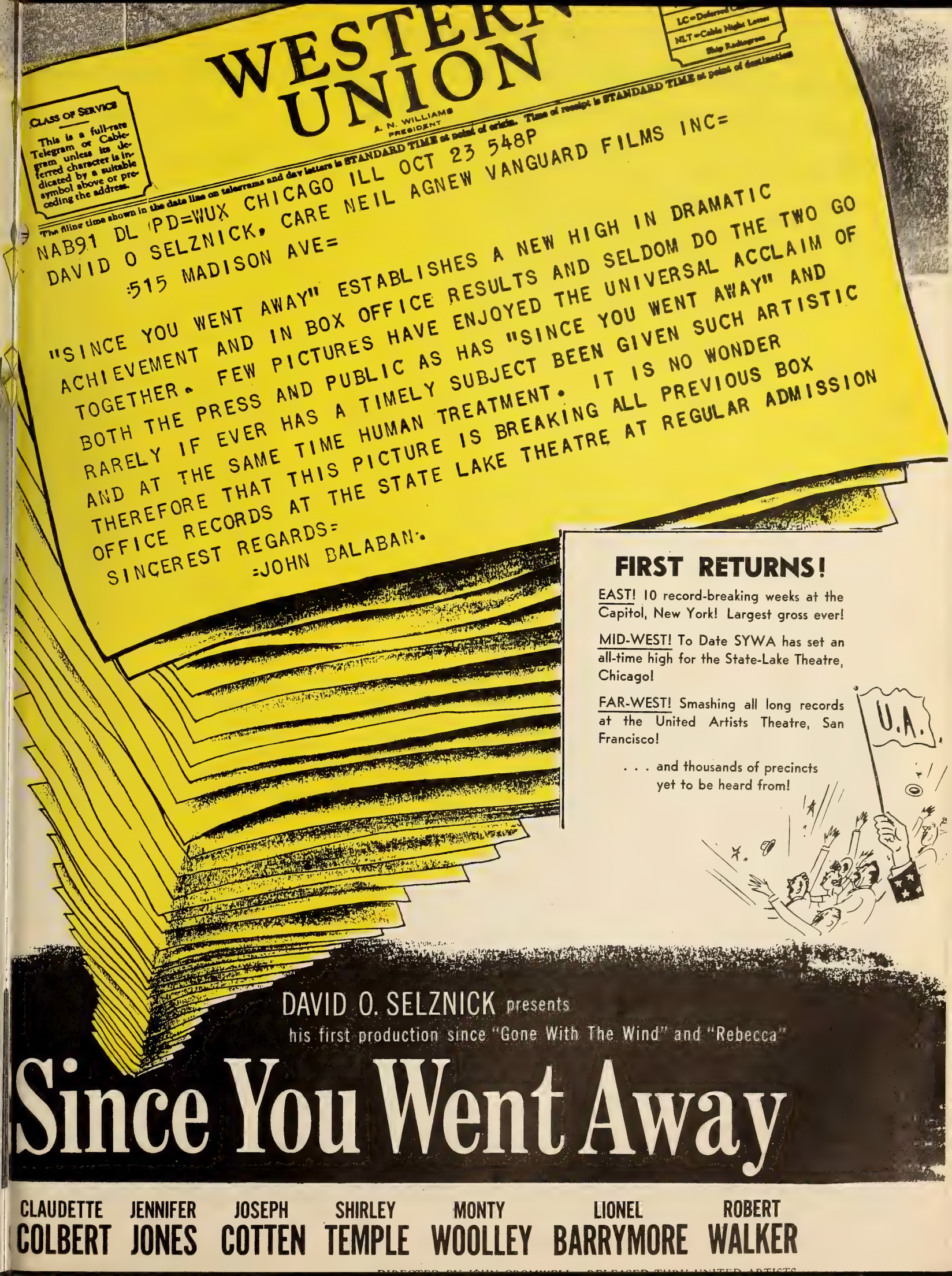
David Fine, manager of the Stanley Theatre here, was fined $250 at Municipal Court for permitting the overcrowding of that theatre.

ELECTED!

—BY UNANIMOUS ACCLAIM
THROUGHOUT THE NATION! . . . for

New *Boxoffice* Records!
New *Attendance* Records!
New *Hold-over* Records!
New *Entertainment* Records!

"PLAY TAPS FOR THE JAPS WITH
SIXTH WAR LOAN SHOWMANSHIP!"


WESTERN UNION
A. N. WILLIAMS PRESIDENT
LC=Deferred Cable
NLT=Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram
CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.
The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination
NAB91 DL PD=WUX CHICAGO ILL OCT 23 548P
DAVID O SELZNICK, CARE NEIL AGNEW VANGUARD FILMS INC=
515 MADISON AVE=
"SINCE YOU WENT AWAY" ESTABLISHES A NEW HIGH IN DRAMATIC ACHIEVEMENT AND IN BOX OFFICE RESULTS AND SELDOM DO THE TWO GO TOGETHER. FEW PICTURES HAVE ENJOYED THE UNIVERSAL ACCLAIM OF BOTH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC AS HAS "SINCE YOU WENT AWAY" AND RARELY IF EVER HAS A TIMELY SUBJECT BEEN GIVEN SUCH ARTISTIC AND AT THE SAME TIME HUMAN TREATMENT. IT IS NO WONDER THEREFORE THAT THIS PICTURE IS BREAKING ALL PREVIOUS BOX OFFICE RECORDS AT THE STATE LAKE THEATRE AT REGULAR ADMISSION
SINCEREST REGARDS=
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FIRST RETURNS!
EAST! 10 record-breaking weeks at the Capitol, New York! Largest gross ever!
MID-WEST! To Date SYWA has set an all-time high for the State-Lake Theatre, Chicago!
FAR-WEST! Smashing all long records at the United Artists Theatre, San Francisco!
. . . and thousands of precincts yet to be heard from!
U.A.
DAVID O. SELZNICK presents
his first production since "Gone With The Wind" and "Rebecca"
Since You Went Away
CLAUDETTE COLBERT
JENNIFER JONES
JOSEPH COTTEN
SHIRLEY TEMPLE
MONTY WOOLLEY
LIONEL BARRYMORE
ROBERT WALKER

Dembow Quits Para. for New Golden Post

(Continued from page 1)

tion, Balaban stated: "We are reluctant to have Sam Dembow leave our organization. He has been a valuable co-worker at Paramount, where he has a host of friends who wish him well. We hope that his new venture will prove a happy and profitable one for him and his associates."

Goldenson said, "We lose Sam Dembow with a feeling of regret. However, all of us at Paramount send with him our good wishes for outstanding success in his new venture."

Hyman began his career as manager of the Victoria Theatre in Buffalo. In 1919 he became the first managing director of the Mark Strand Theatre in Brooklyn after being director of the films division of the War Department in World War I. He was later general manager of Century Circuit in New York and in 1940 joined Paramount as associate of Earl Hudson in the operation of United Detroit Theatres. In 1941, he returned to New York as associate of Goldenson and Dembow.

Fellerman was associated for many years with RKO in both distribution and theatre operations.

Dembow has been in the industry for 30 years and has been a theatre operations executive for more than 20. His association with Paramount began in 1925 when he took over buying and booking for Famous Players theatres. Between 1934 and 1939 he was general manager of National Screen Service and executive vice-president of Fanchon and Marco, in which he acquired an interest.

Decree and WAC on Wisc. ITO Agenda

(Continued from page 1)

J. Wood, executive secretary of the ITO of Ohio; Col. H. A. Cole, president of Allied of Texas, and Sidney E. Samuelson, business manager of the ITO of Eastern Pennsylvania.

Thursday's meeting will be addressed by Don Woods, chairman of the distributors' division here for the Sixth War Loan; Harold Fitzgerald, WAC state chairman; Ray Colvin, president of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association; E. C. Wallace of the WPB priorities department here; Paul C. Mooney, Sr., National Screen Service executive; Dave Palfreyman of the MPPDA, and Claude Lee, Paramount public relations director.

Social activities will include a cocktail party tomorrow to be given by Paramount for early arrivals, and a cocktail party by courtesy of 20th-Fox following the Thursday meeting. A banquet will be given Thursday night. Election of officers will also take place Thursday.

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High Court is Intrigued By Crescent Trust Case

(Continued from page 1)

their consummation, William Waller, counsel for Crescent, disclosed that although the defendants' appeal cited only 16 specific errors it aimed at knocking out the lower court decision in its entirety.

With Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone and Associate Justices Owen J. Roberts, Stanley F. Reed and Felix Frankfurter frequently interrupting him with questions designed to clarify the points brought up, Berge argued that there was adequate supporting evidence for all of the District Court's findings, and asserted that "conclusions of law which are not challenged establish on their face violations of the Sherman Act" by the six companies involved in the suit.

"The only proper issue in this appeal is the scope of the relief to be granted," he said in discussing the Government's position.

Buying Power Use

"One of the most important aspects of this case is the use which the defendants made of their circuit buying power," Berge asserted, explaining that it enabled them to make individual contracts for single theatres on the basis of the buying power of their theatres collectively. In numerous instances, he argued, independent operators were eliminated by film-buying contracts which took their pictures away from them through the pressure the defendants were able to exert on distributors in towns where there was competition.

"Individual independent theatres in those towns where there was competition left found themselves unable to get product of the distributors they had been accustomed to getting," he said, citing cases which had been developed during the trial.

Berge also attacked the franchises which Crescent had secured, contending that the distributors had to make franchise deals in order to get their pictures into any Crescent-controlled houses, and that the franchises were the result of monopolistic pressure as demonstrated by a great deal of the testimony in the record."

Contentions of the defendants that the matter did not affect the public were challenged by Berge, who asserted flatly that "the public doesn't benefit from having a monopoly," the effect of which on the community is to suppress free enterprise, prevent new capital being used in the building of theatres and restrain the amusement available.

"We say that the judgment should have provided that the defendants should justify their acquisitions," he said.

"The real nub of the matter is a procedural point. It would impose on the Government the burden of showing that any new theatre acquisition is barred by the judgment. We would have to prove the sale was not voluntary or the defendants had violated the injunction against coercive tactics. The proceedings would follow the acquisition and would be meaningless. It is not an effective deterrent against restraint of trade: Once a theatre is acquired, it is acquired and competition is out and the independent is gone."

The injunction would be more effective in restraining violation, he concluded, if in all cases of new acquisitions the acquisition had to be justified by the defendants in advance of its consummation.

Pointing out that, except for Crescent interests in Nashville, which had been specifically excepted from the case, the six companies operated theatres in very small towns, the total population of which would not make one good-sized city, Waller told the Court that the Radio City Music Hall furnishes more revenue to the distributors from one picture than all of the defendants' theatres furnish in a full year.

Confiscation Charged

On that basis, he argued, there could be little weight attached to the Government's charge of "circuit buying power" as a weapon and "the only effect of this circuit buying power is, we have been able to get pictures a little cheaper and on better terms by cooperative buying."

Waller stressed the provisions of the injunction requiring each of the defendants to dispose of any interests it had in any other defendant company, charging that it would be "confiscation" because of the tax laws.

"The findings were not actually findings of the court but were copied from the plaintiff's brief," Waller asserted. "We insist there is no proof to sustain any of these findings," he said.

Asked by Associate Justice Roberts why he had attacked only a few of the many findings of the District Court, Waller explained that the defendants had deliberately adopted that strategy on the understanding that if an error is assigned to the decree and is sustained the structure falls.

Heidingsfield, 76, Film Attorney Dies

CINCINNATI, Nov. 7.—Ben L. Heidingsfield, 76, film attorney, died at the Holmes hospital here last night after a month's illness. He was attorney for and director of numerous film corporations operating theatres throughout Ohio, Kentucky and adjoining states.

Two daughters, a brother and sister survive.

Born Dies in Action

Harry Born, former manager of Broadway Globe Theatre here has been reported killed in action in the European theatre, according to word received by Brandt Theatres.

Max Linderman Dies

AUGUSTA, Ga., Nov. 7. — Max Linderman, 58, showman, first president of the National Showman's Association, died here at the weekend following a heart attack. He also founded the Linderman fund for destitutes of the entertainment industry. Survivors include his widow and a brother.

Sgt. Barth Missing

READING, PA., Nov. 7. — S/Sgt. Harry W. Barth, Jr., former assistant manager of the Warner here, has been repoted missing in action. Sgt. Bath holds the Air Medal with Oak Leaf clusters.

WPB to Deny Making More Booth Parts

(Continued from page 1)

ter of next year will be only about the same as provided for both the last and present quarters, or at best a very minor increase.

The present program calls for the production during this quarter of 335 projectors, 156 sound systems, 365 lamps, 365 rectifiers and 45 motor generator sets.

In anticipation of a possible substantial increase in available materials, a program calling for double or more of present production—seriously needed by exhibitors, was submitted to the WPB for consideration, but is understood to have been rejected, although the Board as yet has not definitely fixed the figures for the next quarter.

However, it was said today, there are opportunities for manufacturers to increase their output above programmed figures by taking advantage of the spot authorization plan, which permits the use of excess materials and available labor and machinery for the production of civilian goods. It was indicated that if manufacturers of booth equipment submit applications showing that they are in a position to take advantage of the spot authorization, no resistance will be offered in Washington to their going ahead with such plans.

One Authority Granted

So far, it is understood, only one manufacturer has been granted authority to go ahead with production, under which 200 rectifiers will be produced over a period of two quarters, but there are opportunities in some areas for production, under spot authorization, of projectors, motor generator sets, rectifiers and lamp houses without indicating-meters.

While ball-bearing supplies are tight, it is said there are some bearings in inventory of sizes appropriate for projectors, some small motor capacities are opening up and other materials are available. In the case of lamp houses, however, it would be necessary for the exhibitor to make sure that he replaced present equipment with exactly similar apparatus, so that he might switch meters, which are very tight.

Warter to Become ABP Chairman

(Continued from page 1)

ager, has desired for a long time to become a director, and it is suspected that his current trip to the United States is motivated, at least in part, by this ambition. Warner Brothers has a 25 per cent interest in ABP; and, although the Warter syndicate has sought to acquire that likewise, Max Milder, WB managing director here, has stated that it is not for sale, as reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY. Local sources here confirmed that Jarratt is now enroute to the U. S.

APB ordinary shares have risen from $4.44 to $4.88 on the London stock exchange since the Nov. 1 disclosure of the purchase by the syndicate, which has backing from the Bank of England.

Davis Leaves Here For Odeon Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

tails are expected to be set either late this week or early next.

The acquisition of a half interest in Odeon of Canada will give Rank his first foothold in exhibition in the Western Hemisphere, in what appears to be a long-range program of expansion both in Canada and in the United States now and in the postwar period. It is understood that Rank plans the acquisition of theatres in the U. S. but these plans are contingent upon postwar conditions.

Odeon also has a 50 per cent interest in Rothstein Theatres, which operates seven additional houses in Canada.

Davis is joint managing director of Rank's Odeon Theatres in Great Britain. On a previous visit here last Summer he spent several weeks surveying the Canadian theatre situation, providing him with a first-hand opportunity to study operations of Odeon and other circuits.

Nathanson has already acquired a selected group of Rank's British films for Canadian distribution through his Empire-Universal films. He also handles United Artists releases in Canada and will therefore also handle the seven Rank films which UA is releasing.

Nathanson has postwar expansion plans for his Odeon circuit and with the backing of Rank, it is admitted in Toronto trade circles that this will enable Odeon to assume a more dominant position beside Famous Players Canadian, which now operates over 190 theatres in the Dominion.

Daphne Skouras Now Matsoukas Assistant

Daphne Dolores Skouras, daughter of Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, has joined the Skouras Theatres' 'War Effort Department' here as assistant to Nick John Matsoukas, director. "The engagement of Miss Skouras as assistant director will entail the formulation of additional programs for public service to be put into effect during the war years and be retained in their essence in a post-war program of public service by Skouras Theatres," explained Matsoukas.

Spyros Skouras is also president of the National Greek War Relief Association.

McIntyre, Alexander Promoted by Ansco

Frank J. McIntyre, formerly district sales manager in Chicago for Ansco, is now in charge of sales in the West Coast area, including San Francisco and Los Angeles branches and Ansco's offices in Hollywood, which serve the motion picture capital.

George Alexander, who joined the company in 1941 as technical advisor and sales representative, will direct the Los Angeles branch.

Rally Names Skouras

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, has been named a member of the honorary committee for the seventh annual Army-Notre Dame rally to be held Nov. 10 at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria here for the benefit of the Notre Dame servicemen's fund.

First CED Release Is 'Jobs after War'

"Jobs after the War," a one-reeler produced for the Committee on Economic Development by Newsreel Theatres will be shown on Thursday at the Embassy Theatre here. This is the first release of the CED, which is an organization of industrial leaders who are formulating plans for a postwar economic program. Newsreel Distributors is distributing the short which the CED hopes eventually to have shown in 10,000 theatres.

The short is in the nature of a community report by six business leaders in Richmond, Worcester, Grand Rapids, Evansville, and Bradenton, Fla., on their planning for the postwar. In preparation is another script which the Office of War Information may make for the CED, according to Edward Roberts, a CED executive, and for which distribution may be achieved through the industry's War Activities Committee.

Bette Davis Hosts Press

ATLANTA, Nov. 7.—Bette Davis entertained local film executives and press representatives yesterday at the Biltmore Hotel. Following the reception Miss Davis left for Hollywood where she is scheduled to begin work on a new Warner production.

Fire Destroys Gaines

PINEVILLE, Ky., Nov. 7.—Fire has destroyed the 500-seat Gaines Theatre here and caused damage to several nearby buildings.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 7

PARAMOUNT will co-star Eddie Bracken and Veronica Lake in "Good Intentions," comedy-drama which George Marshall will direct and Paul Jones will produce. . . . John Sheridan has had his Warner contract renewed. . . . Otto Kruger has been selected for the title role in "Earl Carroll Vanities," at Republic. . . . Jeanne Crain will have the feminine lead in 20th Century-Fox's "State Fair."

•

John W. Considine, Jr. is negotiating for Papini's "Life of Christ" as his first independent production.

•

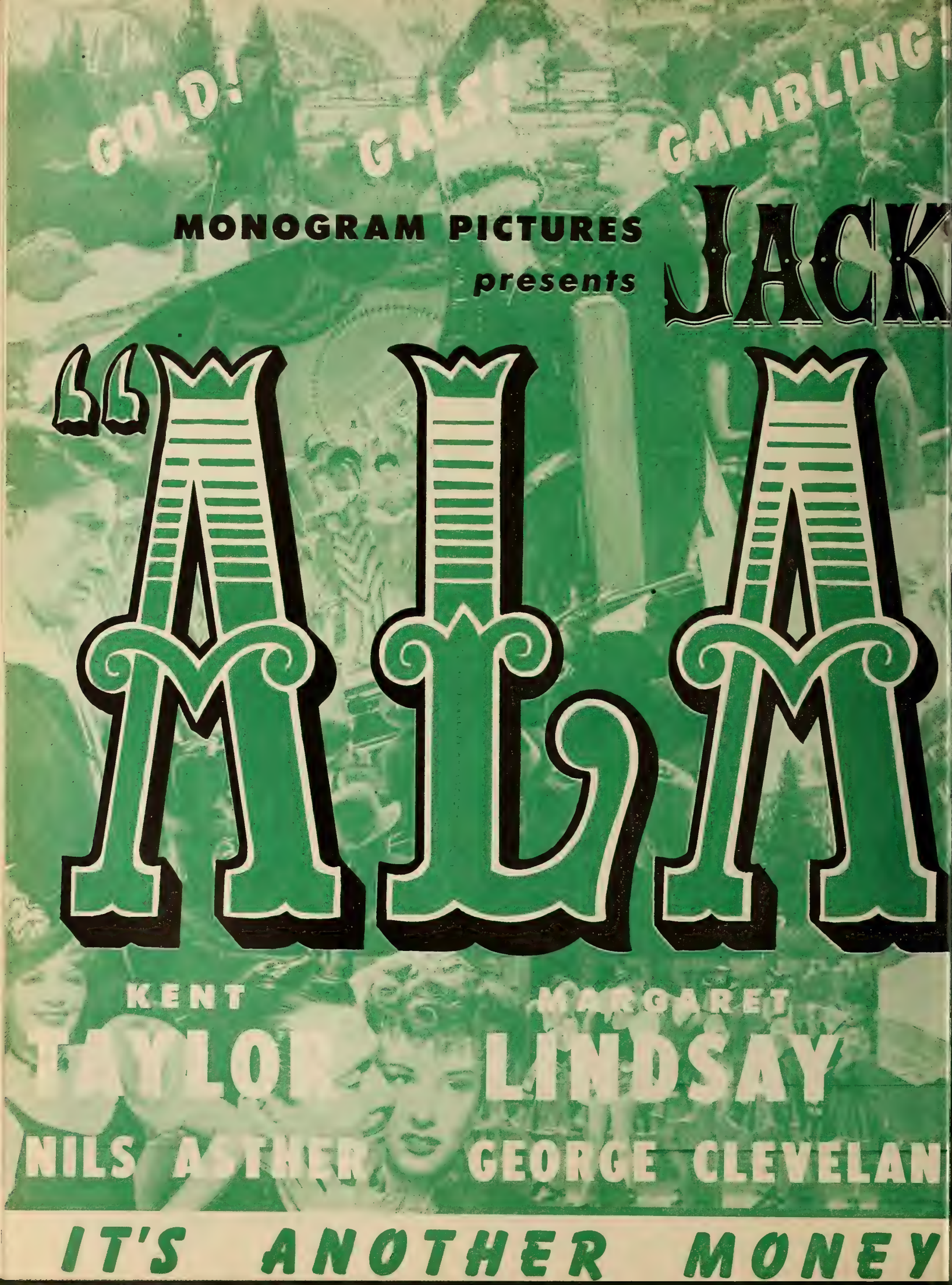
Paulette Goddard will play the title role in Paramount's "The Well-Groomed Bride." Ray Milland will be teamed with her. . . . Richard Arlen will have the lead in Walter Colmes' next production for Republic, titled "Johnny, March." It is the story of a soldier, sole survivor of five. Stricken with amnesia, he does not remember which one of the five he is. . . . Cleve Adams has been assigned to write the third Abbott and Costello comedy for Universal, under the title "You Hypnotize Me."

•

The option to Edgar Buchanan's contract has been picked up by Columbia and the actor has been assigned an important role in "Kiss and Tell," which the new Abbott-Herbert company will film.

Tito Guizar, world-famous romantic singing star, serenades lovely, blonde Virginia Bruce in a tropical moonlit scene from Republic's colorful new musical production, "Brazil."

ADVT.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LONDON'S
SKA"
JOHN
CARRADINE
DEAN
JAGGER
Produced by LINDSLEY PARSONS
Associate Producer VERNON KEAYS
Directed by GEORGE ARCHAINBAUD
Screenplay by George Walters Sutton Hartman
Orlow, Malcolm Stuart Boylan
Based on "TRUSH OF GOLD" by Jack London
HIT FROM MONOGRAM!

B & K Renews Big Radio Ad Program

Chicago, Nov. 7.—The industry trend toward radio advertising, stimulated by the current newspaper space rationing, gained additional emphasis locally this week when Balaban and Katz started its new contract over WMAQ, calling for 260 one-minute announcements over a 52-week period. The announcements will be both institutional and spot commercial.

'Pirate' Runs Away With Big $18,000

CINCINNATI, Nov. 7.—Patrons of RKO's Palace will pay an approximate $18,000 for "The Princess and the Pirate," better than average by $4,500 for the best week this house has had in some time. RKO's Capitol will do an estimated $11,000 on a moveover of "Mrs. Parkington."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 8-11:

"The Climax" (Univ.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).
"San Fernando Valley" (Rep.)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,400).
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
"Strangers in the Night" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $750. (Average: $800).
"Strawberry Blonde" (WB)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 5 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $3,000. (Average, 7 days: $5,000).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Capitol. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO-Goldwyn)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, following a week at the Albee and one at the Grand. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).

$2,500,000 Theatre, Hotel for Boston

BOSTON, Nov. 7.—First sizeable building plans here for the post-war were made known when it was announced that there will be erected on an otherwise unidentified downtown site a $2,500,000 hotel and theatre by the Ford hotel interests which control hotels and other buildings in Buffalo, Toronto and Montreal.

John C. Udd, president of the company, made the announcement through George W. Harvey, president of the local Ford Corp. just established.

Ohio Variety Party

COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 7.—The local Variety Club will hold its annual Victory Barn Dance in Memorial Hall, here, Nov. 15, with a considerable portion of the proceeds to be turned over to support of wartime programs of the junior hostesses of the club, it has been announced by Johnny Jones, chief barker.

Brings Film Shows To Hospital Wards

An unusual method of bringing film entertainment to hospitalized members of the Armed Forces was described and demonstrated on the National Broadcasting Company's coast-to-coast broadcast of the "Army Hour" on Sunday. This particular sequence originated from the Fitzgibbons General Hospital in Denver with Staff Sergeant William Walker, who developed the procedure, handling the demonstration.

This novel method of entertaining wounded fighting men who, because of their injuries cannot leave their beds to see the regular film shows available in the hospital, involves the piping of the sound track of the film through the hospital's public address system, with Sgt. Walker describing the scenes and interim action. The film used was Paramount's "Going My Way."

Sgt. Walker's innovation has attracted wide attention from Army officials and their decision to give his "filmcast" a full dress airing on the "Army Hour" would seem to indicate that other hospitals will soon adopt this procedure also.

'Island,' 'Romance' Score in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Nov. 7.—With major attractions doing big business and less important ones striking bare averages, it becomes more and more evident that filmgoers are "shopping" for pictures nowadays. Currently, the strong shows are drawing ample crowds, following big openings and equally big weekend business. In the top brackets are "An American Romance" and "Rainbow Island," scoring $19,000 each at the Century and Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 9:

"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,000).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,000).
"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. On stage: Bob Gentry, Miriam Burrough, Neal Stanley and Marti, Three Samuels, Earle, Jack & Betty. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,500).
Sing, Neighbor, Sing" (Rep.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,000).

Illinois Owners in Booking Combine

CHICAGO, Nov. 7.—Three independent Illinois circuits have formed a 13-house booking combine this week. They include Russ Hurt's Alger Circuit of Champaign, operating five theatres; Sam Trainer's Bailey Circuit, Princeton, operating six theatres, and George Kruger who operates the Hinsdale at Hinsdale and the Hub at Rochelle.

Levys Will Honor Moss

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 7.—Edgar Moss, local 20th Century-Fox district manager, will be feted for the second consecutive year by Dr. Leon and Isaac D. Levy, president and treasurer respectively, of radio station WCAU here, on Dec. 4.

PREVIEW

OF THE
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December

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BY PAUL HESSE

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GIRL OF THE MOMENT
The Life Story of
JUNE ALLYSON
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Fontaine's Fling ..... *Adele Whitely Fletcher* 34
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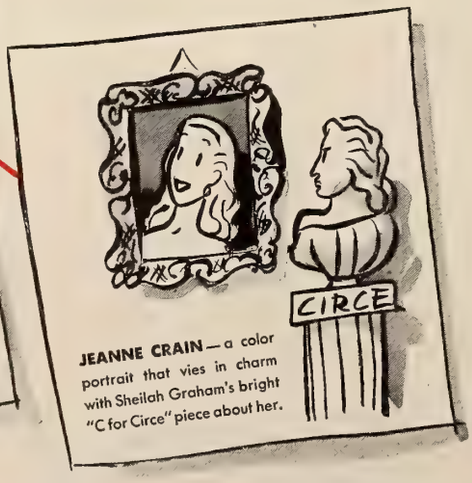
BING CROSBY—in one of those famous Parsons interviews that puts you across the table from Bing.

GARY COOPER—in Europe surrounded by royalty and in socialite Hollywood, Elsa finds him still an unassuming American.

JOAN FONTAINE'S metamorphosis from timid to terrific—an astute Adele Whitely Fletcher characterization.

BETTE DAVIS—a "Steele" engraving of a cinema first lady.



JEANNE CRAIN—a color portrait that vies in charm with Sheilah Graham's bright "C for Circe" piece about her.

BOB HOPE—gets a Kilgallen Croix for his magnificent doings at the fighting fronts and for being himself.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Oct. 14	SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch George Zucco D—67 mins. (6021)	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—145 mins. (500)		(First Block) RAINBOW ISLAND (color) Eddie Bracken Dorothy Lamour C—96 mins. (4401) TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton D—88 mins. (4402) NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather James Brown C—76 mins. (4403) OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Diana Lynn Gail Russell C—81 mins. (4404) DARK MOUNTAIN Ellen Drew Robert Lowery D—56 mins. (4405) (Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins.		CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake O—56 mins. (3314)	(Seventh Block) (1943-'44) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431) BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434) MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432) MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435) (Special Release) THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW (International) E. G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey D—99 mins. (582) (Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN (International Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (1944-'45) (First Block) (1944-'45) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505) NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501) GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins. (504) TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines O—87 mins. (503) THE MASTER RACE Carl Esmond Osa Massen Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey D—96 mins. (502)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins. (530) (Third Block) (Oct. Release) THE BIG NOISE Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy C—74 mins. (506) IN THE MEAN-TIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Frank Latimore D—72 mins. (507) IRISH EYES ARE SMILING Monte Wooley Dick Haymes June Haver M—90 mins. (508) (Fourth Block) (Nov. Release) LAURA Gene Tierney D—88 mins. SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Michael O'Shea M THE WAY AHEAD (British) David Niven D (Fifth Block) (Dec. Release) WINGED VICTORY Edmond O'Brien Jeanne Crain D KEYS OF THE KINGDOM Cedric Hardwicke Roddy MacDowall D SAN DEMETRIO (British) Walter Fitzgerald Ralph Michael D—105 mins.	(Special) SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Joseph Cotten Shirley Temple Jennifer Jones D—171 mins.	BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Kirby Grant Freddy Slack orch. M—70 mins. (9024)	THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid D—101 mins. (405)
Oct. 21	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D—61 mins. (6035)	(Ninth Block) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—112 mins. (501)			WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—74 mins (41PS) (1943-'44)	CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson O—56 mins. (452) MY BUDDY Donald Barry D—69 mins. (403)				THE CLIMAX (Color) Susanna Foster Boris Karloff Turhan Bey D—86 mins. (9007)	
Oct. 28	THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix D—60 mins. (6022)	BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502) MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—90 mins. (504)	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins.		WILD HORSE PHANTOM Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—(1944-'45) I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville C—68 mins.	STORM OVER LISBON D—86 mins. (323) GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES (re-issue) Gene Autry O—65 mins. (3307)					
Nov. 4	SGT. MIKE Larry Parks D—60 mins. (6033) CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS Charles Starrett O—56 mins.	WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—108 mins. (503)	ENEMY OF WOMEN Paul Andor Claudia Drake D—86 mins.		I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell D	END OF THE ROAD Edward Norris June Storey D—(402) 51 mins. SHERIFF OF SUNDOWN Alan Lane Linda Stirling O—56 mins. (463) LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE Roy Rogers O—78 mins. (346)			DARK WATERS Merle Oberon Franchot Tone D—90 mins.	BOWERY TO BROADWAY Donald O'Connor Maria Montez Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey M—96 mins. (9072)	THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Faye Emerson D—(406)
Nov. 11	THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon D 66 mins. (6040)	MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—117 mins. (505)	GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O		BLUEBEARD John Carradine Jean Parker Nils Asther D—70 mins. THE GREAT MIKE Robert Henry Stuart Erwin D—73 mins.	VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY Wild Bill Elliott Peggy Stewart O—55 mins. (3315)				DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker Paul Kelly D—64 mins. (9026)	
Nov. 18		KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—100 mins. (506) MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (507)	WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger D—67 mins.						3 IS A FAMILY Charlie Ruggles Helen Broderick C	RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford Delta Rhythm Boys D—63 mins. (9029)	
Nov. 25		NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Reissue) Jeannette Mac Donald Nelson Eddy M—106 mins. (508)	SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore O	(Second Block) FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Color) Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova D—113 mins. (4408)	CASTLE OF CRIMES Keneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall D	FACES IN THE FOG Jane Withers D—71 mins. (404) FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA Smiley Burnette 55 mins. (453)				ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Charles Korvin Ella Raines D	THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Jane Wyman Jack Carson C—102 mins.
Dec. 2	SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks D	AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards D—122 mins. (510)	CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom C	MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds D—84 mins. (4410)	ROGUES GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond C				GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy D	MURDER IN The BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook John Litel D—61 mins. (9034)	
Dec. 9	TAHITI NIGHTS Dave O'Brien Carole Mathews C	LOST IN A HAREM Abbott and Costello C—89 mins. (509)	SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson D—68 mins.	THE MAN IN HALF-MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker D—92 mins. (4407)	OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe Al St. John O THE TOWN WENT WILD Freddie Bartholomew Jimmy Lydon D					HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Jr. C—64 mins. (9031)	
Dec. 16	TOGETHER AGAIN Irene Dunne Charles Boyer Charles Coburn C 99 mins.		ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—76 mins.	AND NOW TOMORROW Loretta Young Alan Ladd D—85 mins. (4406)						MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Grace McDonald Bob Crosby M—63 mins.	
Dec. 23	DANCING IN MANHATTAN Fred Brady Jeff Donnell C		BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids D—62 mins.	ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker C—76 mins. (4409)	THE WHISPERING SKULL (Texas Rangers) O				TOMORROW THE WORLD Frederic March Betty Field D	THE FUGITIVE Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald D	

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses.

New Songs in Your Heart

One of the things you will long remember about Deanna Durbin's first Technicolor picture, "CAN'T HELP SINGING," is the beautiful Jerome Kern music*. We salute Mr. Kern for this wonderful, melodious score which is typical and worthy of the Jerome Kern tradition.

These songs really warm your heart.

Remember their titles: More and More, Any Moment Now, Californ-i-ay, Elbow Room and the lilting title song, Can't Help Singing.

Deanna DURBIN

CAN'T HELP SINGING

IN TECHNICOLOR

with ROBERT PAIGE

AKIM TAMIROFF

DAVID BRUCE LEONID KINSKEY RAY COLLINS JUNE VINCENT ANDREW TOMBES THOMAS GOMEZ

Directed by FRANK RYAN *Produced by* FELIX JACKSON *Assoc. Producer* FRANK SHAW *Music by* JEROME KERN *Lyrics by* E. Y. HARBURG

Screen Play by LEWIS R. FOSTER and FRANK RYAN • Story by John Klorer and Leo Townsend

Based on "Girl of the Overland Trail" by Samuel J. and Curtis B. Warshawsky • A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

* Listen to this wonderful music Sunday night (November 12) on your CBS station when it will have its inaugural presentation on the Texaco Star Theatre program. It will be a treat for you.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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Companies in France with Salvaged Films

Will Soon Get Back 40 Films Handled by OWI

U. S. film companies have resumed distribution in France. Hollywood features which were salvaged from the Germans are being used pending the arrival of new prints. Temporary representatives, who have been declared persona grata, are in charge of the U. S. offices in Paris, it was learned here yesterday from the Office of War Information's overseas motion picture bureau.

Prints which are approved as suitable by the Psychological Warfare Division are being booked into French theatres. The 40 Hollywood films, dubbed in French and Italian, and acquired from the companies by the OWI for the liberated countries of Europe are still being distributed

(*Continued on page 6*)

Use New WPB Booth Forms

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—Failure of manufacturers and dealers to use the new form, WPB-1319, for applications under the L-325 order, is slowing up efforts of the War Production Board to facilitate the distribution of essential booth equipment, it was disclosed here today by Allen G. Smith, chief of the WPB's theatre equipment section.

Use of this form, in lieu of WPB-3253, was made mandatory as of Nov. 1, after 30 days' notice had been given by an order dated Sept. 30, but a

(*Continued on page 6*)

SWG Sets 3-Point Postwar Program

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—Emmet Lavery tonight was elected the 11th Screen Writers' Guild president, succeeding Lester Cole, who was interim president for the unfinished term of Mary C. McCall, Jr. Lavery was unopposed. At a late hour, ballots were being counted on other officers and 15 executive board members, since these had opposing slates. Lavery took office immediately.

In the report, retiring president

(*Continued on page 6*)

Predict 1,000 New Theatres, Postwar

Predictions that 800 to 1,000 new theatres, costing $75 millions to $125 millions, will be erected after the war, are reported by Sydney B. Self in a survey made for the *Wall Street Journal*. Most will be small town or neighborhood houses, averaging around 800 seats, he reports. Innovations in comfort and safety will feature the new houses, it was said.

Wright Defines Legal Combine

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—The Department of Justice does not contend that there is anything illegal in exhibitors' combining to buy product so as to get better terms but holds that such combinations become illegal when they are exercised for discriminatory purposes against competitors, Robert L. Wright, assistant to the Attorney General in charge of the Department's film unit, has stated before the Supreme Court, which is now considering cross-appeals in the Government's anti-trust suit against Crescent Amusement Co.

The same issue, that of circuit buying power, is involved in the Crescent case, the New York consent decree case and the two others which the Department is pressing, Wright declared.

William Waller, counsel for Crescent, devoted himself at the concluding hearings to argument on the findings of the U. S. District Court at Nashville of a "combination" between United Artists and the defendant cir-

(*Continued on page 3*)

See Few Changes in Commerce Groups Of House and Senate

WASHINGTON Nov. 8.—No changes of great moment are seen in the makeup of the House and Senate Interstate Commerce committees, which handle film legislation, as a result of yesterday's election.

Probably of more interest to the industry was the indicated defeat of Senator Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota, prominent in the 1941 investigation of alleged efforts of the film industry to have the United States intervene in the war, which was halted in October of that year and forgotten entirely on the day of the Pearl Harbor attack.

Senator D. Worth Clark of Idaho, chairman of the investigating group, failed of renomination in the primaries. Senators Charles W. Tobey of New Hampshire and Chan Gurney of South Dakota, Republican members of that subcommittee, appeared tonight to have been returned and Senator Ernest W. McFarland of Ari-

(*Continued on page 6*)

$210,000 Rentals To BIS in a Year

British Information Service here derived $210,000 from the release by American companies of four British Ministry of Information documentary pictures and 16 shorts between Oct., 1943 and Oct., 1944, Tom Baird, director of the film division of BIS revealed here yesterday. Baird returned last week after two months in London.

The four features, "Desert Victory," "Next of Kin," "Coastal Command"

(*Continued on page 3*)

CEA Accepts BOT Program On Monopoly

Hits Circuit Expansion, High-Budget Pictures

LONDON, Nov. 8.—Recommendations of the monopoly report committee of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association were today accepted by a majority vote of the general council. The committee had recommended acceptance of the following eight-point program of the films council of the British Board of Trade:

Legislation forbidding expansion of existing circuits; that the government during the present tight studio situation allocate studio space, adding that the government should build a new studio as part of the national factory reconstruction program; production of medium-budgeted features should be encouraged rather than highly speculative high-budget productions.

Also, establishment of a finance

(*Continued on page 6*)

Claim Rental Deficiencies

BOSTON, Nov. 8.—Loew's and Paramount filed suits today in U. S. District Court against Fred E. Lieberman and corporations associated with him in the operation of a circuit in and around Boston, each alleging that the defendants joined in a plan to furnish "intentionally false and inaccurate statements" of gross receipts on various pictures.

Each distributor claims that it was damaged on percentage pictures and

(*Continued on page 11*)

Major Executives Defend Schine

BUFFALO, Nov. 8.—Distribution executives took the stand here today as defense witnesses in the Government's anti-trust suit against the Schine Circuit. During the day, Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., William F. Rodgers, vice-president and sales manager of M-G-M; Herman Wobber, Western division manager for 20th-Fox; Frank J. A. McCarthy, Southern and Ca-

(*Continued on page 3*)

SCTOA Proposes Trade Disputes Be Settled Without Arbitration Boards

Los Angeles, Nov. 8.—A three-point plan for settling exhibitor-distributor disputes without resort to established arbitration board procedure is among several proposals being offered exhibitors by the comparatively new Southern California Theatre Owners Association. Albert J. Law, former Department of Justice attorney, is executive secretary and general counsel.

Under the plan outlined, exhibitor members would have access to Law's services in such disputes without charge beyond the regular SCTOA membership fee of 10 cents per seat per year. First step would consist of personal efforts to settle a dispute. Second step would comprise round-table discussion with all interested parties present. If these failed to produce a satisfactory outcome, Law would serve as arbitrator or aid in selecting trade-informed arbitrators acceptable to both disputants and, in the latter case, represent the exhibitor in arbitration proceedings. SCTOA has both independent and circuit operators as members.

QP Correspondent On Job in Paris

Pierre Autre, Paris correspondent for Quigley Publications, has reestablished communication with the New York office after a lapse of more than four years.

Autre writes that he had received no copies of either MOTION PICTURE DAILY or *Motion Picture Herald* since July 27, 1940, but that recent issues of the publications were furnished him by Lacy Kastner of the Office of War Information, whom he met in Paris last month. Autre said that as of early October, this year, only four theatres were operating in Paris, due to the power shortage, and that these were showing, primarily, French and Allied newsreels.

Montgomery, August, Ford in 'Expendable'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—Lt. Comm. Robert Montgomery, placed on inactive duty by the Navy, will star in M-G-M's "They Were Expendable." John Ford, also inactive, will direct, and Lt. Comm. Joseph August, likewise on the inactive list, will photograph. Comm. Frank Wead is in charge of the script.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY learns here that 20th Century-Fox, which recently announced that Ford would make his first picture, following his discharge, for that studio, agreed to allow the M-G-M film to be produced first. Ford was under contract to 20th-Fox at the time he went into service. Naval authorities here stated that the officers were not placed on inactive status for purposes of making the picture.

Smith in Red Cross Film Service Post

GREENSBORO, N. C., Nov. 8.—Harry Smith, manager of the National Theatre here, today became director of the Red Cross hospital motion picture service for the Southeast.

Granted an indefinite leave of absence by National Theatres, with which he has been associated for 13 years, Smith expects to return to the National upon completion of his new assignment. He will leave immediately for Washington for a week's instructional orientation.

$310,000 'Kismet' Gross in 11 Weeks

"Kismet," in its 11 weeks at the Astor, New York, grossed $310,000, the highest gross ever attained by any M-G-M film running 11 weeks at that house.

Former record was held by "Private Hargrove," which did $295,000 in 11 weeks. "Kismet" grossed $16,000 in its last week.

Contract for Hitchcock

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—David O. Selznick today gave Alfred Hitchcock a new contract as producer-director to make one film annually for the next five years.

Personal Mention

W. RAY JOHNSTON, Monogram president, left the Coast for a month's stay in New York yesterday.

•

J. C. BROWN, manager of the Washington M-G-M News of the Day office and dean of White House newsreel men, and BELLE FENSTOCK, composer and portrait painter, are honeymooning in Mexico.

•

SAMUEL GROSS, 20th Century-Fox branch manager here, will be principal speaker at the Rotary Club today. He will speak on the "Film Industry in the War Effort."

•

CARL NIESSE, owner of the Vogue Theatre, Indianapolis, and MRS. NIESSE were dinner hosts, the other evening, to ROBERT PAIGE and local exchange managers.

•

JOSEPH WOODS, FRANK DUNN, EDWARD EARLE, IRA ROSENTHAL, CHARLES FRIMMEL, A. L. MORRIS and O. A. ANDERSON, all of M-G-M, left for Pittsburgh yesterday.

•

SHIRLEY BLEENDES, daughter of the Brooklyn exhibitor and secretary to WALTER BROOKS of Loew's, will be married Nov. 22 to LEE RICH.

•

CHARLOTTE SACHS, secretary to EDWARD W. AARON of M-G-M, is at home recovering from a minor operation and the grippe.

•

WILLIAM A. FADIMAN, head of M-G-M's Eastern story department, will arrive in New York from the Coast Saturday.

•

WILLIAM DOZIER will leave Hollywood on Friday for New York, to remain here two weeks.

•

BORIS KAPLAN, Paramount's Eastern talent director, has returned from Hollywood.

•

FERDINAND FORTUNATE, Universal booker in Philadelphia, recently celebrated his 21st year with the company.

•

LEE LEVY, manager of the Arcadia, Wilmington, Del., is critically ill in the Delaware Hospital in that city.

•

EDWARD W. AARON, M-G-M circuit sales head, is in Boston and will return to New York Monday.

•

DAVE LEWIS, M-G-M's Brazilian manager, will arrive in New York from Rio de Janeiro tomorrow.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eastern publicity chief for International Pictures, has returned to New York from Chicago.

PAT CASEY, producers' labor liaison, is due in New York today from the Coast. He will return to Hollywood in about three weeks.

•

THERESE STONE of M-G-M's public relations department, spoke yesterday before a woman's club at the Colony House, Brooklyn, and will address the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs at Elmira next week.

•

J. J. DONAHUE, Paramount Central division manager, and CLAUDE LEE, director of public relations, left yesterday for Milwaukee to attend the annual convention of the I.T.P.A. of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, which will open today.

•

MANNY REINER has arrived in Naples to begin work there with the Office of War Information. He was formerly Paramount short subjects and newsreel publicity director.

•

ED KUYKENDALL, president of the MPTOA, will visit Atlanta this weekend and will be entertained by GUS KING, president of the Capital Theatre Supply Company, there.

•

IKE KATZ, president of the PRC branch in Atlanta, has returned from Memphis, Tenn., where he met with FRED RAHRS, Southern division manger.

•

NEIL F. AGNEW, Vanguard vice-president and sales head, returned from the Coast on Monday and left yesterday for Buffalo. He is due back tomorrow.

•

LEO J. MCCARTHY, PRC general sales manager, and SIDNEY KULICK, Eastern sales manager, will be in Boston the remainder of the week.

•

GEORGE D. BURROUGHS, of the Coast War Production Board branch, left Hollywood for a month's stay in New York yesterday.

•

H. M. RICHEY, in charge of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, will leave New York for Charlotte, N. C., tomorrow.

•

HAROLD LAIRD, branch manager of Republic at Tampa, Fla., is visiting Atlanta.

•

HARRY KATZ, vice-president of the PRC exchange in Atlanta is visiting in Charlotte.

•

LESLIE WHELAN, foreign publicity manager of 20th Century-Fox, has arrived in Mexico City.

•

WILLIAM SISTROM, producer, has arrived in New York from England.

Lesser Sets Budget At Five Millions

United Artists reported here yesterday that Sol Lesser has set a production budget of $5,000,000 for the next two years.

Lesser's first picture on his new program is "Three Is a Family," based on the Broadway stage play.

LeBoss Succeeds Zabin at Cinema

James Zabin, for the past two years general manager of Max Cohen's Cinema Circuit, Inc., here, has resigned to join Gray Advertising Co.

Murray LeBoss, for 14 years with the circuit as manager of supervision, has taken over Zabin's post.

Report Rank Plans Broadway Theatre

LONDON, Nov. 8.—Reports here today indicate that part of John Davis's visit to the United States will be to finalize a plan to build a Broadway theatre to house the product of J. Arthur Rank.

Davis and Bragg Open Talks on Odeon Deal

TORONTO, Nov. 8.—John Davis of London, representing J. Arthur Rank, arrived here last night and was closeted with Thomas J. Bragg of General Theatre Investment Corp. all today discussing final details of Rank's offer to buy a proposed 50 per cent capital interest in the Canadian Odeon circuit of 85 units.

The understanding is that the management and operation of the theatres will remain vested in the Paul Nathanson organization while the Canadian franchise for Rank's British product, under agreement with Nathanson's Empire Universal Films, Ltd., is undisturbed.

WB Sales Meeting Opens Here Today

Warner district sales managers met this morning for the first of a series of home office conferences, presided over by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager. District executives attending will include: Norman Ayers, Ralph L. McCoy, Harry A. Seed, Henry Herbel, Robert Smeltzer, Hall Walsh, Charles Rich and Ralph H. Clark.

Others who will participate are: Charles Einfeld, Mort Blumenstock, Arthur Sachson, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Norman H. Moray, Mike Dolid, Ed Hinchy, Stanley Hatch and other home office executives.

Injunction for Leader Against 20th Denied

New York Supreme Court Justice Carroll G. Walter yesterday denied a motion by Emil K. Ellis of Leader Theatre Corp. for a temporary injunction restraining 20th Century-Fox from withholding product allegedly purchased for the theatre when it was a part of the Randforce circuit.

Judge Walter set no date for trial of the suit against 20th-Fox and Randforce, but counsel for the latter offered to go to trial by Nov. 15. The product, according to the complaint, was transferred to another Randforce house when the Leader was sold to the plaintiff.

HVC Reports 21 Went Overseas in October

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—The Hollywood Victory Committee reports that 21 film players went on overseas tours during October, bringing the total to 129 each averaging 11 weeks since the start of HVC's overseas programs.

During the same month 445 entertainers made 1,600 appearances in 217 service shows here.

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$210,000 Rentals To BIS in a Year

(Continued from page 1)

and "Tunisian Victory," and the 16 shorts were released by the American companies under a 70-30 per cent distribution arrangement, with BIS paying publicity and exploitation costs out of its share, Baird explained.

Baird disclosed that BMOI has a two-reeler dealing with the construction and setting of the mobile docks which were used to land supplies for Allied troops on "D-Day." It will probably be offered to American companies when it arrives, he said. Baird said that BMOI's robot bomb film, "V-1," will be released here Nov. 16 through the War Activities Committee with RKO handling distribution. The raw film needed to make the robot prints has been secured from the War Production Board and will be charged to BIS stock allocations.

'Western Approaches'

"Western Approaches," the BMOI 90-minute documentary, in color, dealing with the Atlantic convoy system, has been completed, according to Baird, but in view of the raw stock and color printing difficulties, it will not be released here until next February. "Journey Together," dealing with Royal Air Force cadet training, is also nearing completion, as likewise the joint American-British filming of the invasion of Europe.

"Three thousand non-theatrical projectors in Great Britain are being used for the showing of BMOI and American Office of War Information films," Baird said, adding that, "There are 150 traveling units now handling BMOI-OWI films, each giving about 10 shows monthly to about 225,000 persons."

The British Central Film Library is currently handling 25 U. S. OWI films.

Baird said that attendance at British theatres has returned to normal after a serious dip during the height of the robot bomb attacks. "Business is good, theatres are packed," he said.

Major Executives Defend Schine

(Continued from page 1)

nadian sales manager for Universal; Edwin J. Smith, RKO Buffalo salesman; and Elmer Lux, RKO Buffalo branch manager, testified for the defense.

It is expected that the defense will wind up its case with one or two more witnesses tomorrow, but the identity of those to appear was not revealed. Briefs will be ordered by Federal Judge Knight at the conclusion of the Government's rebuttal testimony.

Depinet stated while on the stand that, "We don't permit the exhibitor to take advantage of us and he does not permit us to take advantage of him. It wouldn't make any difference to me whether he was an independent or a chain operator in the licensing of my pictures, if he could live up to the requirements, and it was the best place to sell."

Lt. Samsalia Killed

Lt. Monroe Samsalig, formerly of SOS Cinema Supply Corp., here, has been killed in action in France, according to a War Department report. He had been in the Army since 1940. SOS reports 22 employees now in service.

200 Expected for Sixth Loan New England Rally

HARTFORD, Nov. 8.—Over 200 exhibitors and distributors will meet at a luncheon at the Hotel Bond here tomorrow, for New England's regional meeting for the 6th War Loan Drive. Ways and means of increasing bond sales premieres, children's matinees and National Free Movie Shows will be discussed.

Meeting will be attended by Harry Brandt, national chairman; Jack Kirsch and Nathan Yamins, national co-chairmen; Ned E. Depinet; S. H. Fabian; Gertrude Bunchez; Max Alderman, executive secretary of Allied; Dr. Jack Fishman, president of Allied of Connecticut; Marty Mullens of M. and P. Theatres; Herman Levy, secretary of the MPTOA of Connecticut, and George Wilkinson, Jr., president of the MPTOA of Connecticut.

Part of the meeting will be broadcast and a 30-piece band from Bradley Field will furnish entertainment. A message from Gov. Raymond E. Baldwin of Connecticut will be read, praising the industry for its part in the war effort. Lt. Gov. William Hadden and Mayor William Mortensen of Hartford will also attend.

'Tokyo' Bond Premiere At Capitol Nov. 15

The New York Capitol Theatre will celebrate its 25th anniversary on Nov. 15 with the pre-world premiere of "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," with admission by purchase of Sixth War Loan bonds only. The premiere will have military heroes and officers of the Army, Navy and Marines in attendance.

A 20-foot clock, striking a 30-second signal for each bond sold will be unveiled at 47th St. and Broadway tomorrow, with two of the pilots who bombed Tokyo aiding in the selling of bonds. They are Lt. Col. 'Brick' Holstrom and Major Everett Youngblood. Each noon, during the drive, stars of the theatre and screen will aid bond sales.

Oregon Organizes 'Wrecking Crew'

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 8.—O. J. Miller, state exhibitor chairman for the Sixth War Loan drive, has organized Oregon's 'Wrecking Crew,' consisting of Mark McDougald, Warner Bros.; J. T. Warren, M-G-M; C. E. Tillman, Columbia; George DeWade, Paramount; W. F. Patterson, 20th Century-Fox, and Jack Kloepper, Star Film Exchange, whose purpose it will be to book bond premieres from all of the 220 exhibitors in the state.

Chicago Exhibitors Hold Organization Meeting

CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—Local leaders of the Sixth War Loan drive met in the Variety Club in the first of a series of meetings during which war bond features will be outlined. Warner Theatre's local offices have been designated as the official bond agency for Film Row during the drive.

In the attendance at the meeting were: Eddie Silverman, John Balaban, James Coston, Jack Flynn, W. E. Banford, Sam Shirley, Jules J. Rubens, Arthur Schoenstadt, Bill Bishop, Leonard Gneier (representing Jack Kirsch), Larry Stein, and Norman Kassel.

'Serenade to America' Sixth NBC Drive Show

"Serenade to America," NBC Coast-to-Coast network show, will be the opening show at the bond rally in Madison Square Garden, Nov. 20. Harry Brandt, national film chairman for the drive, has been notified by Ted Lloyd, director of radio, that through arrangements with NBC, the NBC Symphony, chorus and Nan Merriman and Robert Merrill, soloists, will appear directly from the Garden. Nora Sterling will be commentator.

Phila. Distributors Pledge Sixth Support

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 8.—Complete distributor cooperation in the Sixth War Loan here was pledged at a meeting of 70 local exchangemen to acquaint them with plans for contacting exhibitors, and securing pledges for bond premieres.

Ben Fertel, exhibitor area drive chairman, announced that members of the national touring committee will be on hand Nov. 13 for the rally here.

Boston Rally for 6th Tomorrow

BOSTON, Nov. 8.—Among members of the industry's national committee who will attend the meeting for the Sixth War Loan drive at the Statler Hotel tomorrow, will be Ted R Gamble, Harry Brandt, Ned E. Depinet, Capt. Ray Wild, Lt. Lewis Largey, Jack Kirsch, Nate Yamins and Gertrude Bunchez.

Richey To Speak

Henderson M. Richey, in charge of exhibitor relations at M-G-M, will attend the Sixth War Loan Drive meeting at the Charlotte Hotel, Charlotte N. C., Nov. 13 and speak for the WAC's distributor's division.

Rogers' Radio Show

Roy Rogers, Republic cowboy star, has been signed for a coast-to-coast radio show to be heard over the Mutual network Tuesday evenings from 8:30 to 9:00 P.M., beginning Nov. 21. The program will be known as the Roy Rogers Show. The Sons of the Pioneers will also appear.

John Philliber, 72, Dies

ELKHART, IND., Nov. 8.—John Philliber, 72, film and stage star, died here this week. Philliber, who was a stage actor for 50 years before going to Hollywood, retired last Summer.

Salesmen Nominate

BOSTON, Nov. 8.—Maynard Sickels of the Capitol Theatre Supply Co. has been nominated for the presidency of the Motion Picture Salesmen's Club of New England. Others nominated include: Thomas O'Brien, vice president; T. M. Farber and H. Harold Rubin, secretary; Harry Rosenblatt, treasurer; William Cuddy, sergeant-at-arms.

Jack Laidlaw Killed

TORONTO, Nov. 8.—Corp. Jack Laidlaw, 20, formerly with the Variety Theatre at Calgary, has been reported killed in action.

Wright Defines Legal Combine

(Continued from page 1)

cuit in situations where a new circuit theatre was able to get product formerly leased by an independent house, asserting that the lower court had held that an independent had to have the product of three of the five companies in order to continue in business, and pointing out that in no instance was it claimed that any independent in competition with the defendants had less than three sources of supply.

However, he said, the independents found that when competition came into their towns, they no longer could buy pictures at the prices they formerly paid.

"In the end, independents sold their theatres not because they could not get product but because they found they could not get pictures at the prices they paid before there was competition," Waller said.

"Motion pictures have no standard value; their values differ from time to time, place to place and even theatre to theatre. Negotiation between distributors and exhibitors is merely a matter of 'horse trading', and it sometimes gets pretty bitter.

"When an exhibitor has no competition, when he has a monopoly in a town, even though he has a very poor theatre, he can make money because he can get pictures very cheap," Waller added.

Government's Theory

The theory of the Government's complaint was that independents could not get suitable pictures to operate their theatres, he declared, contending that the court did not find in a single instance that this had occurred but found that the distributor discriminated against the independent.

Waller emphasized that the district judge has found that United Artists "combined" with the defendants but that there was no "conspiracy," a distinction which led to many questions from the justices as to just what was meant. He explained that, so far as could be read, the court held that the defendants, through their circuit buying power, had caused the distributors to withhold product from independent competitors but that the latter had not entered into any arrangement with the companies to accomplish that end.

"No independent exhibitor with a good theatre, who kept his contracts with the distributors, was put out of business," he maintained.

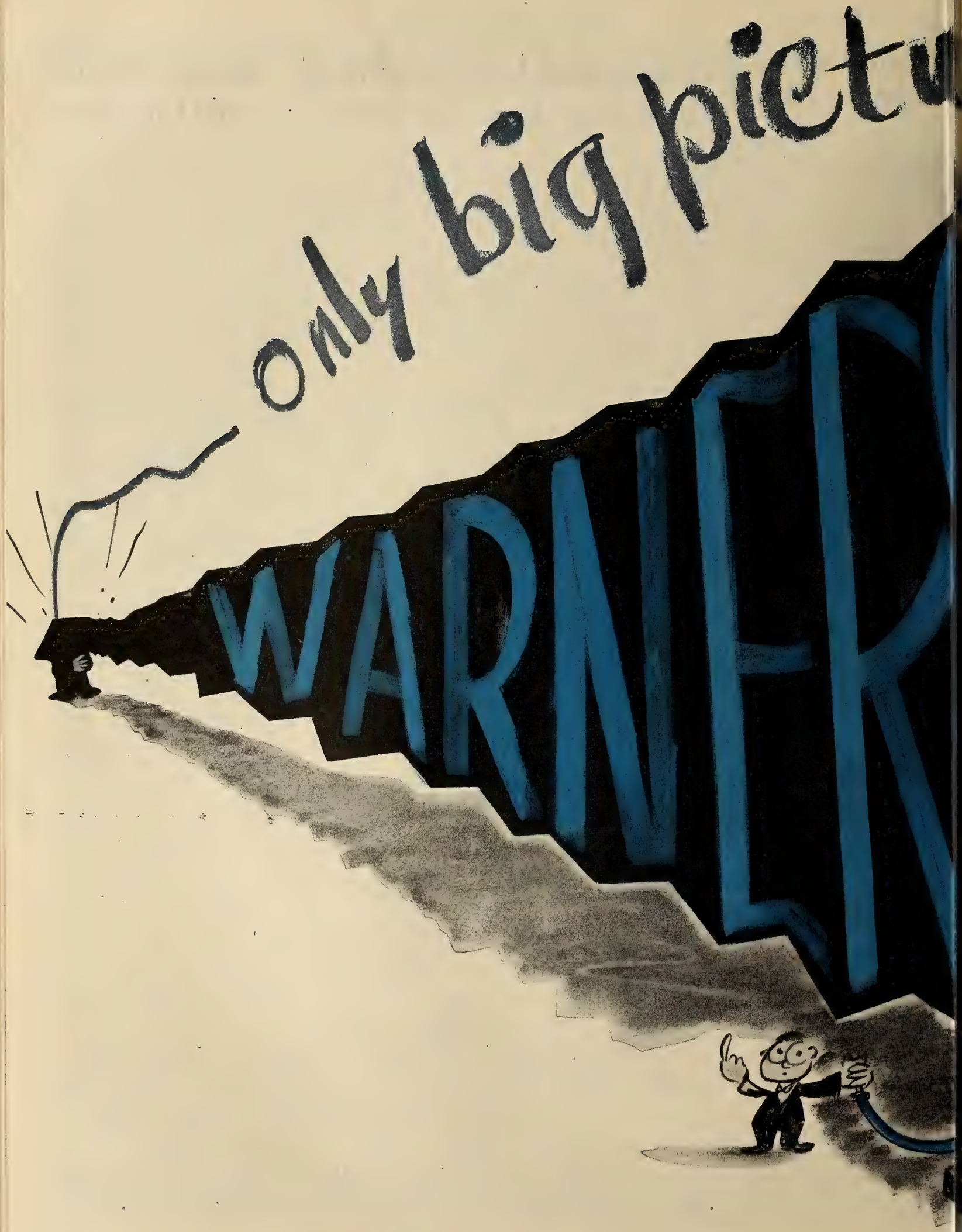
Winding up the case for the Government Wright at the request of the court, attempted to clear up the district judge's distinction between combination and conspiracy, admitting that he himself was hazy as to what was intended.

Paramount Loses Hope

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—Paramount has suspended Bob Hope, charging that the star comedian refused to appear in "Duffy's Tavern" and "My Favorite Brunette."

Wolfe's Father Dies

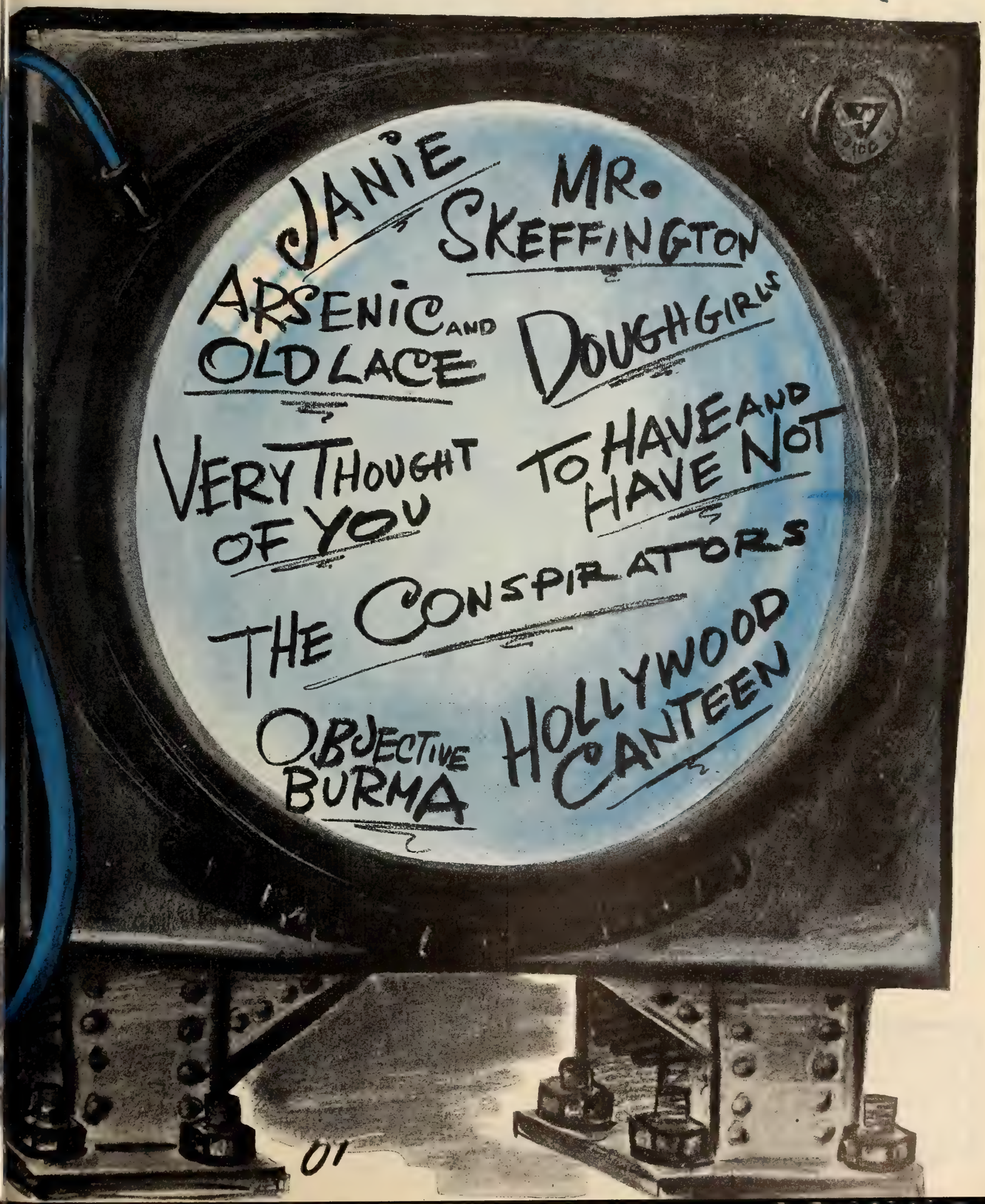
HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—L. Wolfe father of Manny Wolfe, RKO story and writing department head, died today at Hibbing, Minn., following a long illness.



ROCK 'EM WITH THE 6th!

JACK L. WARNER, Executive Produc

res made here!!!



01

$39,000 for 'SYWA' in 4th Week in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 8.—"Since You Went Away" wound up its fourth week in the Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz setup by getting $39,000, against a $23,600 average, and moved out due to prior bookings for those houses. "Summer Storm" got $68,500 at the Carthay Circle, Chinese, Loew's State and Uptown, which average $61,000.

Lightning, thunder, rain and hail, defying all California tradition, wrecked Sunday afternoon business.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 8:

"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,200).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,200).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
EGYPTIAN — (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,500).
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
"Mademoiselle Fifi" (RKO)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $6,200).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Girl Rush" (RKO)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $19,700).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $31,500. (Average: $24,100).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $14,900).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Girl Rush" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $16,700).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (HOLLYWOOD)—(1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,000).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (DOWNTOWN) — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $17,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,700).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,500).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,175. (Average: $17,000).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,988. (Average: $18,700).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
WARNER BROS. WILTERN — (2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $10,447. (Average: $15,200).

The Hollywood Reopens

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 8. — The Hollywood Theatre here, major casualty of the September hurricane, has reopened coincident with the 10th anniversary of the house. The theatre has undergone repairs and remodeling representing an estimated $60,000.

WANTED! Cardex Secretary
Good opportunity for person familiar with Cardex system for theatres nationally; exhibitor contracts and records; bookkeeping. Position NYC. Good starting salary. Mail details of experience in confidence to
Box 237, Motion Picture Daily.

See Few Changes in Commerce Groups

(*Continued from page* 1)

zona has another two years to serve.

There will be three vacancies to fill on the Senate Interstate Commerce committee in January. One of them will be the place occupied by Senator Harry S. Truman of Missouri, who will be the next Vice President. A second is that of Senator Ellison D. Smith of South Carolina, defeated in the primaries, and the third that of Senator Clark of Idaho.

At least four places will have to be filled on the House Interstate Commerce Committee none of them, however, of men prominent in film legislation. Chairman Clarence F. Lea of California was returned to the House, but successors will have to be appointed for Congressmen Newsome of Alabama, Kennedy of New York and Myers and Scott of Pennsylvania, and final reports had not been received on a half-dozen other members in states where the voting was close.

Mrs. Helen Douglas is Elected to Congress

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—Two of the three Hollywood personalities running in yesterday's election were victorious. Helen Gahagan Douglas, wife of Melvyn Douglas, was elected to the national House of Representatives, and Albert Dekker, actor, to the state Assembly. Lucille Gleason, actress, was defeated for the Assembly. All are Democrats.

California Attendance Up Despite Election

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 8.—With scattered exceptions, first runs and subsequents report that yesterday's attendance was unaffected by the election, due to the generally advertised servicing of returns to the audiences and the beneficial influence of bank closings and half holidays in some business institutions.

"Proposition 11," an old-age pension scheme opposed by the exhibitors, who screened trailers arguing against the measure in all houses, was overwhelmingly defeated at the polls.

SWG Sets 3-Point Postwar Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

Cole sounded SWG's policy keynote to develop a post-war program for writers and cooperate with other Hollywood guilds and unions, on three major premises: to develop employment in the television and educational film fields, with emphasis on obtaining work for writers discharged from military service; participation in the construction of a Guild Center Building to house all Hollywood guilds; and the establishment of a foreign employment exchange to supply writers and film workers of all categories to producers abroad.

Over 250 writers in service will be canvassed to determine their experience since leaving Hollywood and the possibilities for their reabsorption by studios.

Morris to Goldwyn

CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—Claud Morris, United Artists publicity chief here, will leave this city at the weekend to become head of publicity for Sam Goldwyn in New York.

Utopia Sticks; No Rejects in 3 Mos.

Chicago, Nov. 8.—The censor board here, for the third consecutive month, has passed all pictures viewed. Of the 87 pictures screened in October, Capitol's "Bedroom for Two" and PRC's "Bluebeard" were classified for adults.

Companies in France With Salvaged Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

by PWD with the cooperation of the companies' representatives.

American companies are expected to resume distribution of these films as soon as they can establish exchange facilities and otherwise efficiently conduct French operations. Robert Riskin, chief of the overseas film bureau, is in Paris to aid in the resumption of distribution by the companies.

Henri Lartigue is understood to be temporarily in charge of M-G-M's operations there, until such time as Laudy Lawrence, formerly Continental manager, now with the OWI, serving with the PWD, can be relieved of those duties. Marcel Genteel is in charge for RKO, and Henri Klarsfeld, formerly French manager for Paramount, has resumed his duties.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 6 reported that Lartigue managed to salvage 300 prints, including "Gone with the Wind."

The U. S. Treasury Department recently removed the liberated areas of France from the category of "enemy territory," and lifted restrictions on business and commercial communications with those areas. Treasury licenses will no longer be required for concerns in this country and liberated France to exchange financial and commercial information and establish business contacts.

Need New WPB Form For Booth Material

(*Continued from page* 1)

large proportion of applications are still coming in on the old form, Smith said.

Since old-form applications cannot be processed, he explained, it is necessary to return them to applicants with instructions to procure and use WPB-1319, which gives extra work to both the WPB and the manufacturer or dealer, plus a loss of time which, in some instances, may be important.

Smith urged that all manufacturers and dealers secure copies of the new form and accompanying instructions from their local WPB offices, or, if unable to do so, to apply to Washington for copies.

To Screen 'Liberation'

"The Liberation of Paris," produced by the Committee of Liberation of the French Motion Picture Industry, will be previewed here tomorrow afternoon at the Preview Theatre. The film, in English, with Charles Boyer as narrator, will be screened Friday in its original French form. It is the first production of the committee.

CEA Accepts BOT Monopoly Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

corporation sponsoring independent production; legislation forbidding conditional and restrictive booking; legislation compelling distributors to trade with cooperative booking associations of independent exhibitors; production of independent exhibitors following Article 10 of the Consent Decree; that the government should negotiate with Washington on the alleged inequitable American taxation on British films shown in the U. S., and also with a view to the heavy exchange burden involved in the importation of American films here, with greater facilities for the exhibition of British films in America.

Regarding the BOT's films council suggestion that a tribunal be set up to control the entire British industry, the committee recommended a qualified acceptance, stating that the tribunal should be reserved for arbitration only, without powers of initiation but that legislation be made ensuring enforcement of any award.

Approximately 75 per cent of the general council voted to accept the committee's recommendations. The next step is consideration by all branches of the industry followed by further discussions of the BOT, which is still waiting for the opinions of the British Film Producers Association and the Kinematograph Renters Society.

Mediating RKO Pact Dispute With Union

Hearings started here yesterday before the New York State Mediation Board in the contract dispute between RKO and Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistant manager in the 40 RKO theatres in Metropolitan New York.

According to a Guild spokesman, no progress was made at the initial meeting in view of the fact that Monroe Goldwater, attorney representing RKO, indicated that he was not in a position to make any commitments for the company. He promised to have N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, at the next meeting, which has been set for Nov. 16.

Denver Pays Most To 'SYWA' at Two

DENVER, Nov. 8.—"Since You Went Away" held for a second week at the Denver and Esquire and brought $18,750 and $5,625, respectively. "The Climax" on a dual at the Paramount was expected to gross $13,950.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 6-9:

"Captains of the Clouds" (WB reissue)
"One Foot in Heaven" (WB reissue)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,600).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
DENHAM — (1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $9,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
DENVER — (2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, holdover. Gross: $18,750. (Average: $15,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
ESQUIRE — (740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, holdover. Gross: $5,025. (Average: $4,500).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"San Diego I Love You" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,200) (35c - 45c - 74c) 7 days. Gross: $13,950. (Average: $9,000).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $7,500. Average: $5,000).

Gloriously...
Enchantingly...
Daringly...
Together Again

There can be no question of the widespread appeal of IRENE DUNNE and CHARLES BOYER with CHARLES COBURN in a picture carrying the significant title "TOGETHER AGAIN"

Question: Is it a good picture?

Answer: It is an outstanding comedy.

It will rank high in the list

and in the tradition of the

greatest comedy pictures

ever produced by Columbia.

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Claim Rental Deficiencies

(Continued from page 1)

that the defendants allegedly misrepresented and understated receipts both on percentage and flat rental pictures in order to obtain reductions in rental terms as well as to obtain lower rentals on future deals. The distributors say they granted the exhibitors' request to reduce flat rentals on a basis of a percentage of the receipts reported by the exhibitors.

It is also alleged in each complaint that at times box office checkers were induced by the exhibitors to participate in the alleged falsification of percentage grosses reported to the distributors.

It is claimed that the exhibitors did show to the plaintiffs books and records which, upon examination, indicated a number of occasions, according to the plaintiffs, of understated receipts in the box office statements submitted to the distributors by the exhibitors, but the plaintiffs claim that they are unable to determine with accuracy the true amount of the discrepancies because of the alleged incompleteness of the records furnished.

The action by Paramount is brought against Lieberman and corporations operating the Normandie, Bijou and Uphams Corner Theatres, Boston, and the Medford Square, Medford. The action by Loew's involves the same defendants and additional corporations operating the Holyoke, Holyoke, and Strand, Brockton.

Edward F. McClennen and Jacob J. Kaplan, the latter of Nutter, McClennen and Fish, Boston, are attorneys for both distributors.

Chicago Exchange Union Reelects 3

CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—Anne Birhanzle of Republic, president of Local B-45, Film Exchange Employes Union, A. F. of L., was elected again to that post. She headed the union local here two years ago. Sam Lamansky of Columbia and Fred Hanzelin of United Artists were reelected business manager and secretary.

Others elected are: Bess Gilbert, PRC, vice-president; Mae Moretti, M-G-M; Arthur Rosenthal, United Artists; Oliva Kennedy, Paramount, and Marie Hardy, RKO, members of the executive board, and Marie Gramlich, M-G-M; Effie Kehoe, U. A.; and Roy Rotman, Warners, trustees. James Castle of Monogram and Tony Popelka of M-G-M tied for sergeant-at-arms.

Set 'Brazil' Premiere, And $300,000 Budget

Republic's "Brazil," starring Tito Guizar and Virginia Bruce, will have its "kick-off" openings at the Fox Theatre in St. Louis Nov. 14 and at the Republic Theatre here Nov. 18.

The company has allocated a record $300,000 budget for the promotion of the film. The campaign will include a special radio show, newspaper advertising, radio spot announcements and billboard advertising.

Agencies in TPA

The Television Producers Association, heretofore composed of producers, directors and technicians active in producing shows, is now taking in television department heads of advertising agencies and their staffs, including writers, Harvey Marlowe, chairman, reports.

Para. Campaign for 'Creek' in Frisco

An extensive publicity, advertising and exploitation campaign will precede the Western premiere of Paramount's "Frenchman's Creek" at the Fox, San Francisco, on Nov. 22, and the two-theatre pre-release opening in Oakland at the Fox-Oakland and Grand Lake theatres the next day, Robert M. Gillham, Paramount advertising and publicity director reported yesterday.

The campaigns include extra newspaper advertising, a radio campaign, personal appearances of the film's stars, window displays, cosmetic and book tieups in department stores, special 'period' displays and tieups with 1,900 stores.

Lieut. Fecke Credited For Attack on Japs

BOSTON, Nov. 8.—Lt. Alfred Fecke, 26, of Duxbury, Mass., son of Alfred J. Fecke of Republic Pictures here, led an attack by eight U. S. Navy pilots which succeeded in dispersing a formation of 60 to 75 Japanese fighters and bombers during the early October battle off Formosa. The feat is credited with having saved two crippled American medium warships which the Japs chose to attack.

Lt. Fecke is the nephew of Herbert V. Fecke, advertising manager of MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Shea Abroad for U. S.

Joseph C. Shea, formerly New York advertising publicity director for William Cagney Productions, who has been working on a documentary film for the War Department, is going overseas on a research mission following completion of current foreign service school training.

Anti-Trust Suit Is Filed vs. Majors

Associated Playhouses, Inc., operator of the Bayshore Theatre, Bayshore, Long Island, has filed an anti-trust suit in the New York Federal Court against Paramount, Columbia, Universal, United Artists, Loew's and Marcus Loew Booking Agency, Inc., claiming restraint of trade.

Plaintiff claims it has no access to films released by the defendants until 140 days after they are first exhibited on Broadway. It is alleged that Loew's Valencia, Jamaica, is the nearest opposition; and that that theatre is 32 miles away. Despite this distance, it is alleged, the Valencia overbuys to prevent plaintiff from securing product. The Bayshore, as a result, has been forced to buy inferior films at alleged exorbitant prices from other distributors, it is charged. An injunction and triple damages of $225,000 are asked.

Plaintiff is a subsidiary of the Prudential and Playhouses Operating Co., of New York, headed by Irwin Wheeler and Joseph M. Seider.

Brandt Buys Daly's Theatre on 63rd St.

William Brandt yesterday bought Daly's Theatre on 63rd Street here and will take possession Nov. 17. Purchase price was not disclosed, but the property is understood to be subject to a tax lien of $120,000. Whether Brandt will run Daly's as a legitimate house or add it to his company's film circuit has not yet been determined.

Tito Guizar, handsome star of "Brazil," Republic's new super Pan-American musical, starts the festivities during the gala fiesta in one of the gay scenes.

ADVT

DID YOU EVER SEE AN EDITOR GO HEAD-OVER-HEELS?

FILM REVIEWS

Meet Me In St. Louis
(TECHNICOLOR; SONGS)

Metro release of Arthur Freed production. Stars Judy Garland; features Margaret O'Brien, Mary Astor, Lucille Bremer, Leon Ames. Directed by Vincente Minnelli. Screenplay, Irving Brecher, Fred F. Finklehoffe, from Sally Benson's book. Songs, Hugh Martin, Ralph Blane; camera, George Folsey; music, Roger Edens, Georgie Stoll, Conrad Salinger; dances, Chas. Walters; editor, Albert Akst. Tradeshown Oct. 25, N. Y. 1944. Running time, **113 MINS.**

Esther Smith.....Judy Garland
"Tootie" Smith.....Margaret O'Brien
Mrs. Anna Smith.....Mary Astor
Rose Smith.....Lucille Bremer
John Truett.....Tom Drake
Katie (Maid).....Marjorie Main
Mr. Alonzo Smith.....Leon Ames
Grandpa.....Harry Davenport
Lucille Ballard.....June Lockhart
Lon Smith, Jr.....Henry H. Daniels, Jr.
Agnes Smith.....Joan Carroll
Colonel Darly.....Hugh Marlowe
Warren Sheffield.....Robert Sully
Mr. Neely.....Chill Wills

"Meet Me in St. Louis" is the answer to any exhibitor's prayer. Perhaps accented in these days as ideal "escapist" film fare, it would be surefire in any period. It holds everything for the film fan.

It is wholesome in story, colorful both in background and its literal Technicolor, and as American as the World's Series. Its theme is a natural for the hinterland; it's that "getting ahead and going to New York" isn't everything.

As Leon Ames plays the head of the Alonzo Smith clan it's a 1903 life-with-father. Mary Astor is the understanding and, incidentally, quite handsome mother as they worry about Judy Garland and Lucille Bremer, playing their daughters. Henry H. Daniels, Jr., is the self-sufficient brother, off to Princeton, but the romantic travail of the two older girls is the fundamental. Backgrounded are Marjorie Main, capital as the maid who almost bosses the household, and the still-gallant Harry Davenport, now 80ish, who is Grandpa.

It's the time of the St. Louis Fair, hence the title song, and everything that makes for the happy existence of a typical American family is skillfully panoramaed.

From Sally Benson's New Yorker stories (and later a book), Metro's scripters, Irving Brecher and Fred Finklehoffe, have contrived a tiptop screenplay.

Seasonal pastorals, from summer into the next spring, take the Smith clan through their appealing little problems. Judy Garland's plaint about "The Boy Next Door" (played by Tom Drake); the Paul Jones dance routine to the tune of "Skip to My Lou"; the Yuletide thematic, "Have Yourself a Merry Christmas"; and the already popular "Trolley Song," en route to the Fairgrounds, are four socko musical highlights. They have been intelligently highlighted and well-paced by director Vincente Minnelli.

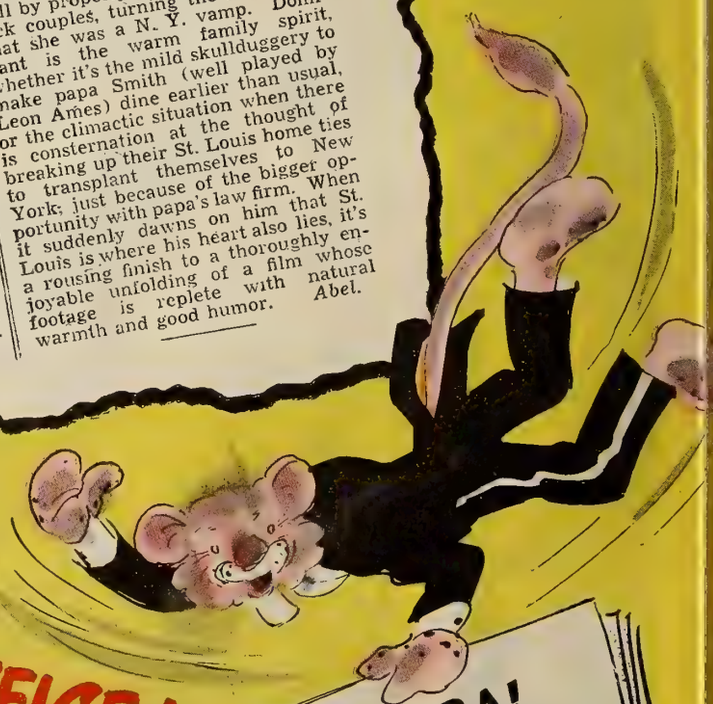
Then there is winsome Margaret O'Brien as the prevaricating and impressionable "Tootie" Smith, the youngest of the brood.

Miss Garland achieves true stature with her deeply understanding performance, while her sisterly running-mate, Lucille Bremer, a looker and a redhead out of the N. Y. nitery choruses, likewise makes excellent impact with a well-balanced performance.

Right down the line the casting is smooth. The people all seem real, Joan Carroll, another moppet, slightly older than Margaret O'Brien, is likewise a prankster. June Lockhart makes her role believable when she saves the evening at the Christmas ball by properly pairing off the love-sick couples, turning the impression that she was a N. Y. vamp. Dominant is the warm family spirit, whether it's the mild skullduggery to make papa Smith (well played by Leon Ames) dine earlier than usual, or the climactic situation when there is consternation at the thought of breaking up their St. Louis home ties to transplant themselves to New York, just because of the bigger opportunity with papa's law firm. When it suddenly dawns on him that St. Louis is where his heart also lies, it's a rousing finish to a thoroughly enjoyable unfolding of a film whose footage is replete with natural warmth and good humor.

Abel.

Read every word of Abel Green's wonderful review!



"Me Too!"

MEET ME AT THE BOX-OFFICE!
Another M.G.M. Anniversary Sensation!
"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"

EXTRA!
"THE TROLLEY SONG" IS ALREADY NO. 3 ON THE HIT PARADE!

"Bonds Buy Bombs! Sock 'em with the 6th!"

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 91 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1944 | TEN CENTS

FILE COPY NOT TO BE REMOVED

Canada Sees Longer Ban On Equipment

Restrictions Needed for Stabilization Purpose

TORONTO, Nov. 9.—Canada's post-war prospects for theatre operational and construction developments are definitely clouded because of the Federal government's regulations and the uncertainty of government policy immediately after an armistice, as found in varying statements from official industry quarters.

The general belief is, however, that a number of important restrictions may be continued indefinitely within the scope of a stabilization program which would be intended to hold down the inflation.

The position, however, does not prevent key men of the Canadian in-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Para. Earns $12,476,000

Paramount yesterday estimated its earnings for the nine months ended Sept. 30 last at $12,476,000, including $2,797,000 representing its share of undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated companies. Earnings for the corresponding period last year were estimated then at $11,655,000, including $1,906,000 of undistributed earnings of subsidiaries.

Earnings for the 1944 third quarter were estimated at $4,581,000 after interest and all charges, including estimated provision for all Federal normal and excess profits taxes. This includes $1,261,000 of undistributed earnings of subsidiaries, and com-

(*Continued on page* 14)

Casey Is Here to Set Newsreel Pact

Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, is expected to hold a meeting here shortly in an attempt to resolve the present deadlock that exists between the newsreel companies and the IATSE in negotiations for a contract for some 75 newsreel cameramen in New York and Chicago.

The two IATSE cameramen locals involved, Local 644, New York and

(*Continued on page* 14)

Warn Allied Of State Tax

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 9.—Members of the Allied Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, which opened its sixth annual convention at the Schroeder Hotel here today, were warned of the impending local and state tax bills to plague the industry for the balance of the war and the postwar era. President William Ainsworth reported that Wisconsin tax legislators are angling for the Federal theatre tax pennies, when and if the Government drops that levy after the war. Wisconsin, he said, is seeking additional revenue and during the next legislature in Madison in January the possibilities of a state theatre tax will be thoroughly examined.

Business secretary Harry Perlevitz also warned of coming state tax and urged the Allied group to be prepared to defend itself. Harold Fitzgerald,

(*Continued on page* 14)

Schine to Dispose of Five by Nov. 15

BUFFALO, Nov. 9.—Counsel for Schine Chain Theatres said here today that the company's interest in the five theatres which remain to be divested under the terms of the Federal court order of May 19, 1942, will be disposed of on or before Nov. 15, providing satisfactory offers for the interests are received.

The properties include leaseholds on the Opera House and Ada Meade, Lexington, Ky.; Plaza, Malone, N. Y.; Memorial, Mt. Vernon, O., and a half interest in the corporation holding the lease on the Margie Grand, Harlan, Ky.

Schaefer Is Sought For New MPPDA Post in Washington

George J. Schaefer, chairman of the War Activities Committee, has been proffered a new post as Washington representative of the MPPDA, it was learned yesterday.

George Schaefer

In the absence of Schaefer, who was in Washington yesterday, and of Will H. Hays, MPPDA head, who is at his Sullivan, Ind., home, no details of the nature of the new post were available from responsible sources. However, it was reported unofficially that the MPPDA

(*Continued on page* 11)

Schaefer to Survey Raw Stock for WAC

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—A survey of the raw stock situation was undertaken today by George J. Schaefer, acting as liaison between the War Activities Committee and the War Production Board. Schaefer conferred at length with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the WPB photographic section, with special reference, it is understood, on the film needs of the Army, and is expected also to discuss the situation with Army officials connected with motion picture activities.

The delicate raw stock situation has

(*Continued on page* 11)

125,000,000 Servicemen Admissions, Representing Cuts of $31,000,000

The five distributor circuits—Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners, controlling approximately 2,500 theatres in the U. S., have counted approximately 125,000,000 admissions for service men and women, at reduced prices, since July 7, 1941. Total value of the reductions approximates $31,000,000, with the average single reduction running around 25 cents.

Paramount, of course, counted the most service tickets, with its 1,200 theatre affiliates issuing about 45,000,000 service tickets, representing about $12,000,000. (Paramount's actual figures were not available due to the wideflung decentralization of its theatre operations, but an average was struck based on the other four distributor-circuits' figures as made available by each of them.) Twentieth Century-Fox's 570 theatres had about 26,000,000 service admissions, representing $6,000,000; Loew's 165 houses had 21,200,000, for a $5,000,000 cut; Warner's 450 theatres had 20,500,000, for a $5,000,000 reduction, and RKO's 120 houses had 12,300,000, representing $3,000,000.

Studios Geared For 708 a Year For Post-War

Could Handle 985 to Meet Foreign Demands

Equipped now to turn out 708 features a year, if pressed, and committed for post-war plant expansion which would raise that figure to 985, Hollywood contemplates whatever the post-war period may have in store for it in the way of quantity production to meet worldwide demands for screen entertainment, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today.

This total estimate is based on capacity use of the 186 sound stages now available in

(*Continued on page* 12)

196 from 71 Independents

By WILLIAM R. WEAVER

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 9.—In close coincidence with the wartime increase in grosses, independent production has risen to an all-time high, with 71 concerns in this category committed to deliver 196 features, an undeterminable number of them during 1944-45.

The rising in grosses, giving birth to the Hollywood colloquialism that "no picture can lose money in this market," is the principal reason among several accounting for the trend which

(*Continued on page* 12)

Bergher to OWI Film Post in Far East

Michael Bergher, formerly Puerto Rican manager for Columbia, has joined the Office of War Information's overseas branch to handle "a specific motion picture operation" in the Far Eastern theatre of operations, it was learned here yesterday.

Bergher, prior to his Puerto Rico

(*Continued on page* 12)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Cowboy from Lonesome River," Columbia, appears on page 14.

Personal Mention

RICHARD F. WALSH, president of the IATSE, has returned to New York from the coast.

•

NAT L. LEFTON, PRC franchise owner in Cleveland, became a grandfather for the third time this week, when a son, ROGER, was born to his daughter, whose husband, LT. ERNEST PERLMUTTER, is overseas.

•

FRITZ H. THOMAS, manager of the Lyric Amusement Co., Huntsville, Alabama, has been re-elected president of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce for a second term.

•

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, vice-president and general sales manager of M-G-M, and BEN MELNIKER, M-G-M attorney, will return to New York from Buffalo today.

•

WALTON C. AMENT, vice-president and editor of Pathe News, will leave for Chicago at the weekend, starting a tour of RKO's Western exchanges.

•

B. B. GARNER, vice-president and general manager of Florida State Theatres, Paramount affiliate, is visiting New York with his family.

•

MITCHELL RAWSON and RUSSELL STEWART, M-G-M publicists, will return to New York from Washington today.

•

LOUIS J. HALPER, Warner circuit zone manager for the West Coast, will leave New York Nov. 14 for Los Angeles.

•

FRANCIS S. HARMON, War Activities coordinator, and GEORGE SCHAEFER, chairman, were in Washington yesterday.

•

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK, executive production head of 20th Century-Fox, will leave Hollywood for New York tomorrow on the Superchief.

•

GEORGE D. BURROUGHS, Monogram vice-president and treasurer, is en route to New York from Hollywood.

•

LEO MILLER, Warner buyer and booker for Los Angeles, will return to the Coast over the weekend.

•

ARTHUR WILLI, RKO Radio Eastern talent scout, will leave for Chicago over the weekend.

•

HUME CRONYN, M-G-M director, is in New York.

•

FORD ADAMS of Wilby-Kincey circuit is in New York from Atlanta.

Dual Disney Celebration

Walt Disney will celebrate his 25th anniversary in the film industry in 1945 coincident with the release of "The Three Caballeros" his new production which combines the use of animated characters with 'live' actors.

Pickman Named to Assist Hal Horne

Jerome Pickman has been named executive assistant to Hal Horne, 20th Century-Fox advertising and publicity director. He replaces Bob Montgomery, who recently resigned to join Lester Cowan.

Pickman has been in charge of special events for New York openings of 20th-Fox pictures since May. Prior to joining the company, Pickman was associated with Eddie Cantor.

Producers Entertain Australian Mission

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 9.—An Australian government mission headed by Richard V. Keane, minister for trade and customs and also a leader in the Senate, will attend a luncheon of the Association of Motion Picture Producers here tomorrow, with Joseph M. Schenck as host at the 20th Century-Fox studio, and another on Saturday with Y. Frank Freeman host at Paramount.

The mission is on a six-week goodwill business visit to the U. S. Accompanying Keane is A. C. Moore, Australian director of import and procurement.

Balaban to Coast for New Product Talks

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, will leave today for Hollywood for his customary Fall conference with studio executives. During his 10-day visit, he will see a number of completed productions, many of which will be released during 1944-45.

Among films which Balaban will see are, "The Road to Utopia," "Murder He Says," "A Medal for Benny," "Incendiary Blonde," "Bring on the Girls," "Two Years Before the Mast," "Her Heart in Her Throat," "Here Come the Waves," "Out of This World" and "Kitty."

Picker Becomes Columbia Producer

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 9.—Leonard S. Picker, for the past two years executive assistant to B. B. Kahane, vice-president of Columbia studios, was made a producer today under a long-term contract.

Picker had been secretary of Screen Gems, Inc., and prior to that was a member of the Columbia home office legal department. He first became associated with the industry when he joined the late Nathan Burkan, film lawyer, in 1933.

SMPE Sect. Meet Nov. 15

The Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will meet Wednesday evening, Nov. 15, at the Hotel Pennsylvania here. Principal speaker will be Paul Terry, producer of Terry-Toons, whose subject will be: "Animated Cartoons—Past, Present and Future."

Melford to Make 3 At Million Apiece

Frank Melford, former producer for Sol Lesser and prior to that with RKO, is forming Frank Melford Productions to make three 'A' pictures, budgeted from $750,000 to $1,000,000 a picture. Melford is here from Hollywood to close a deal for three properties, a stage play and two novels, and to arrange for distribution.

Edward Ludwig, who recently directed "Three's a Family" for United Artists release, will direct the first of the three, which will cost from $2,500,000 to $3,000,000, Melford said. The pictures, which will go into production in about three months, will be made over a period of from a year to 18 months.

Although the independent producer is maintaining a high earning power in a generaly lush period of theatre business, Melford declared, despite an inability to obtain star names for his productions, this handicap will inevitably take its toll when business tapers off. To overcome the lack of players with name value, Melford predicted that the independent producer will be forced to turn increasingly to films of an exploitable nature in order to survive.

When the foreign market straightens itself out, with foreign production increasing, there will be a tendency to keep out those films which lack star value and showmanship angles, he said, and native producers will fill in the gaps. The major companies will be able to maintain their pre-war foreign markets by virtue of their stars, he said.

Melford will return to Hollywood on Nov. 29.

Cobian to Cuba to Wind Up 20th Deal

Ramos Cobian, Puerto Rican circuit owner who also operates a number of theatres in Cuba in partnership with Paramount, has returned to Havana from New York to work out the final details with Herbert White, 20th Century-Fox Cuban manager, of a deal he is closing with the company for a supply of 20th-Fox films for his Havana theatres.

First picture under the deal will be "Song of Bernadette." Contracts will be signed in Cuba by White, representing 20th Century-Fox, and Cobian.

RKO Sells Fox West Coast, Consolidated

RKO closed two circuit deals yesterday, according to Robert Mochrie, general sales manager. The company signed a one-year contract with Consolidated Amusement Co., Honolulu, operating 120 theatres, for its entire 1944-45 line-up.

In the second deal, RKO sold its first group of five of 1944-45 to the 300 theatres of Fox West Coast. Pictures are: "None but the Lonely Heart," "Tall in the Saddle," "The Master Race," "My Pal, Wolf," and "Goin' to Town."

Shurlock to Study Latins for Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 9.—Geoffrey M. Shurlock, assistant to Joseph I. Breen, production code administrator, entrained today for Washington en route to nine Latin American nations to study, for Hollywood, their reactions to American films and obtain guidance for future Hollywood pictures with Latin American assets.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
SUPER-SHOCK SENSATION!
"THE MASTER RACE"
George COULOURIS Stanley RIDGES
Osa MASSEN Carl ESMOND

Paramount presents
PAULETTE GODDARD SONNY TUFTS
in
"I LOVE A SOLDIER"
In Person
TONY PASTOR and his Band
BERT WHEELER
MARION HUTTON
HAL LEROY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
First N. Y. Showing!
'SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU'
JON HALL
LOUISE ALLBRITTON
IN PERSON
JAMES BARTON
3 SUNS

★★ VICTORIA ★★
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
20 CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
WILSON
IN TECHNICOLOR

June Haver - Dick Haymes
Monty Woolley
'IRISH EYES ARE SMILING'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
Plus On Stage —
RAY BOLGER - GRACIE BARRIE
WALTER NILSSON - CARR BROTHERS
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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THREE GREAT M·G·M WORLD PREMIERES!

Truly World Events

CAPITOL THEATRE WORLD
PREMIERE M★G★M's TRIUMPH!

"THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO"

A brilliant World Premiere to celebrate the Capitol's Twenty-Fifth Year. The opening night of November 15th will long be remembered. First Bond Premiere in the Nation to launch the Sixth War Loan.

★

Says VAN JOHNSON:
"How come you're so cute?"

Says his bride (Phyllis Thaxter):
"I had to be — to get such a good-looking fellow."

M-G-M's GREAT MOTION PICTURE

THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO

A MERVYN LeROY PRODUCTION

with

VAN JOHNSON
ROBERT WALKER

PHYLLIS THAXTER · TIM MURDOCK
SCOTT McKAY · GORDON McDONALD
DON DEFORE · ROBERT MITCHUM
JOHN R. REILLY · HORACE McNALLY

and

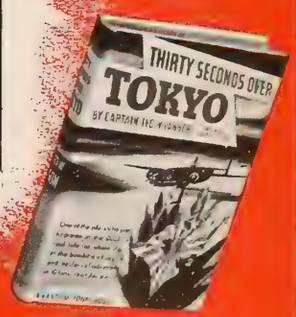
SPENCER TRACY

as

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES H. DOOLITTLE

SCREEN PLAY BY DALTON TRUMBO
BASED ON THE BOOK AND COLLIER'S STORY BY CAPTAIN TED W. LAWSON AND ROBERT CONSIDINE
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE
DIRECTED BY MERVYN LeROY · PRODUCED BY SAM ZIMBALIST

The Best-Seller and its real people come to thrilling life on the screen.



SALUTE!
The love story behind the greatest story of our time. It will run forever on the screens of the world and in the heart of humanity.

M★G★M's HONEY AT ST. LOUIS
WORLD PREMIERE & ASTOR, N.Y.

"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"

Leo unfurls his gayest banners on Nov. 22nd as jubilant St. Louis welcomes a World Premiere that will sweep the nation. Followed by a De-Luxe Pre-Release promoted in the M-G-M manner at the famed Astor Theatre on Broadway.

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS

A Sweetheart of a Movie!

M-G-M's
Glorious **TECHNICOLOR** Romance
with Song, Gaiety and Heart-throbs

Starring

JUDY GARLAND

WITH

MARGARET O'BRIEN

Mary Astor
Lucille Bremer
Tom Drake
Marjorie Main

SCREEN PLAY BY IRVING BRECHER AND FRED F. FINKLEHOFFE
BASED ON THE BOOK BY SALLY BENSON

DIRECTED BY VINCENTE MINNELLI
PRODUCED BY ARTHUR FREED

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

HATS OFF! Just what the public needs of glowing good cheer. Come to St. Louis while the miracle Fair enchants the world and young hearts are in love and songs fill the air. "The Trolley Song" already on Hit Parade! It's M-G-M's

A MUSIC HALL EVENT
M★G★M WORLD PREMIERE!

"NATIONAL VELVET"

While "Mrs. Parkington" sets new M-G-M records at this famed show-shop, advance tip-off is that the greatest of all M-G-M attractions is on the way. No wonder the celebrated Music Hall picks it for the Christmas-New Year's big holiday money. Opening date December 14th!

★

M-G-M's Great TECHNICOLOR Heart Drama

"NATIONAL VELVET"

A CLARENCE BROWN PRODUCTION

BASED ON THE NOVEL "NATIONAL VELVET" BY ENID BAGNOLD

starring

MICKEY ROONEY

with

DONALD CRISP • ELIZABETH TAYLOR

ANNE REVERE • ANGELA LANSBURY

JACKIE JENKINS • ARTHUR TREACHER

Directed by CLARENCE BROWN

Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN

Screen Play by Theodore Reeves and Helen Deutsch

A *Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer* Picture

PRIZE PACKAGE!

The Coast Preview set audiences cheering and now this thrilling human drama is the talk of the film colony. Watch the happy holiday records fall at the Music Hall!

THOUSANDS CHEER

2 GIRLS AND A SAILOR

GUY NAMED JOE

SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE

BATHING BEAUTY

BROADWAY RHYTHM

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY GOES ON!

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP MGM

It's been Hit after Hit all our Anniversary Year—

Never in history so many BIG ones in a row!

And now...

To top all that has gone before M-G-M presents

"THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO"
"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"
"NATIONAL VELVET"

Three Great World Premieres!

Three Great Entertainments!

Leadership indeed!

MADAME CURIE

CANTERVILLE GHOST

WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER

GASLIGHT

DRAGON SEED

SEVENTH CROSS

MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR

KISMET

MRS. PARKINGTON

AN AMERICAN ROMANCE

THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS

Schaefer to Survey Raw Stock for WAC

(Continued from page 1)

been a subject of concern to the WAC, and particularly the supplies of the Army and lend-lease programs. Schaefer is expected to make periodic trips to Washington to talk with Burrows on raw stock.

WPB, Industry Watch Raw Stock Situation

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—War Production Board officials and industry representatives are keeping a close watch upon the raw stock situation with increasing confidence that it will be possible to squeeze through the current quarter without a further reduction in allocations, although the possibility of emergency demands which will upset the supply and demand relationship has not yet faded.

Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the WPB photographic section, and Harold Hopper, his predecessor and now studio executive for M-G-M, acting as industry representative, have been in conference every few days for some time with a view to keeping on top of the situation.

Reports on operations in the film manufacturing and motion picture industries are coming in to Burrows practically on a daily basis and the changes in supply and demand are known in Washington within hours of their occurrence. With this information available, it will be possible for Burrows to act practically instantaneously in the event of an emergency created by sudden new military or export demands.

The most important prospective factor is the new 'alley' under construction in the Ansco plant at Binghamton, N. Y., which is expected to come into operation around the first of the year, and which will permit the shuffling of types so as to increase the output of those currently most needed.

Meanwhile, Burrows said today, the situation is one of watchful waiting for the end of the critical period through which the industry is now going.

Progress in Stock Situation: Hopper

Although the raw stock situation continues to be "extremely tight," with the industry virtually down to bedrock, Harold Hopper, M-G-M studio executive who has been conferring on the film situation with War Production Board officials in Washington, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that "we are making progress."

There is a good possibility, Hopper said, that the industry, which has been expecting a cut in its fourth-quarter allocations, will not be forced to take this cut "immediately" and may even escape one altogether. Hopper, however, declared that upward revision of stock quotas is very remote.

The industry has asked for a general review of stock requests by the military services, lend-lease, Foreign Economic Administration and the Office of War Information, with a view to effecting economies.

Fire at Loew's Sheridan

A basement storeroom fire at Loew's Sheridan theatre here caused manager Bob Rosen to empty the house, in good order, at 9:30 last night. C. C. Moskowitz of the Loew circuit arrived on the scene even in advance of Mayor LaGuardia.

Canada Expects Ban on Equipment to Continue

(Continued from page 1)

dustry from expressing views with respect to immediate and early requirements in the order of their essentiality. Incidentally, there has been little opportunity for the building up of a cash reserve on the part of theatre companies with which to undertake expansion because the government has imposed a 100 per cent tax on all excess profits above dividend requirements and other clearly-defined capital charges of limited nature. This was done as a wartime measure to augment war effort funds. True, much money is in circulation and special financing is possible but there is no guarantee that such conditions will continue to prevail after the war.

Manpower Need

According to the manager of one large downtown circuit theatre, the first prime need is adequate manpower for a complete and qualified staff, recalling difficulties of more than four years. The second need is the replacement of carpets, furnishings and furniture, not to mention seats which, he said, have 'taken a beating' during the war. Third need is projection replacements although the latter have "stood up surprisingly well under frequent inspections and constant care." This policy had been rigidly maintained in view of the supply situation because, he said, "after all, no projectors, no show, even though you have a swell theatre."

Marquee and lobby lighting has been turned on only recently under the revoking of the government ban and theatre men in Toronto were surprised to find the great proportion of neon signs and border wiring in good working order although out of use many months, due to protective measures which had been taken when dimout orders went into effect. There was a complaint, however, that although white-frosted light bulbs are ample, no colored lights are obtainable through the ban on the manufacture of such lines under wartime restrictions to conserve labor and factory facilities. No red bulbs for interior wintry 'warmth' and no green lights for summery 'coolness' are available; it is white for everything, or nothing.

Repairs Skimpy

It was pointed out that theatre equipment repairs or replacements have had to be skimpy because of the Federal order restricting the cost of such jobs to $1,500. Likewise, structural repairs or alterations cannot exceed $5,000. Plumbing, heating and air-conditioning jobs all have strict limitations and there are no indications that any modification of the Federal permit plan will come at an early date.

The head of one large theatre supply company in Toronto declared that the No. 1 urgent need of theatres is motor generators. They are needed quickly, he said. However, there is the prospect that the quota of generators for the Canadian market from the United States in 1945 would be adequate.

The carbon situation in Canada is satisfactory, he asserted, with theatres continuing to conserve supplies. He described the theatre carpet situation as 'critical' with availabilities considerably below even normal demands. Theatre seats are available on a yearly quota of 7,000 in Canada—'and you can figure how many theatres can be re-seated in a whole year on that supply.' Four or five medium-size theatres could absorb the year's available output. He pointed out that the large electric companies in Canada plan to hold a meeting shortly to deal with pressing needs for colored light bulbs and there is a possibility the government could be prevailed upon to lift restrictions to meet the problem.

Questions regarding the prospect of television developments for theatres are met here with a blank stare from theatre men. The subject appears to be almost foreign to the exhibitor because government policy, through Canadian Broadcasting Corp., is to keep visual broadcasting unto itself.

However, television will be strictly under government control, it has been promised.

Seek Schaefer for New MPPDA Post

(Continued from page 1)

Washington office is to be enlarged with a view to handling increased industry duties which are expected to arise in the postwar period, among which, it is expected, will be new and more numerous matters related to foreign operations which will call for close cooperation with the Departments of State and Commerce, the Federal Trade Commission and other Government offices.

According to these reports, Schaefer would prepare for the expanded organization and play a prominent part in it in the postwar period.

Schaefer has been prominently identified with industry wartime projects for more than two years past. Prior to that he was president of RKO, vice-president and general manager of United Artists and vice-president and general sales manager of Paramount.

Sears, Agnew Last Schine Witnesses

BUFFALO, Nov. 9.—The defense rested today on the 35th day of the Government's Schine anti-trust trial following the examination of three more witnesses. Edward F. McClennen, Schine counsel, made the announcement.

After a brief recess, Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice, was to call a rebuttal witness and introduce a few more documents into evidence. Trial is then expected to close, with Judge John Knight ordering briefs filed.

Defense witnesses today were headed by Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president of United Artists, and Neil Agnew, Vanguard Films vice-president, who was formerly associated with Paramount.

McClennen put to both Sears and Agnew this question: "To your knowledge, has there been any conversation with any of the defendants, or their executives or employes, not to deal with any competing exhibitor or to restrict the terms of such dealings?" The answers both were in the negative.

Agnew testified as to general film practices; competition between distributors for exhibitor playing time; the pushing back of sales conventions by distributors to get their product going first; and admission-price clauses in film licenses.

Final defense witness was Hobart L. Himes, Canadaigua attorney, who testified as to the Jenkins property on which Hubert P. Wallace of Auburn had attempted to acquire as a site for a new theatre.

Smith Joins Ettinger

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 9.—Margaret Ettinger's agency, has announced that Lou Smith will become associated with it this week as a partner.

Smith joined M-G-M in Nov., 1942 as publicist at the home office, was previously with Columbia and Universal as studio publicist.

NEW DATE FOR M-G-M TRADE SHOW

ST. LOUIS TERRITORY ONLY

"30 SECONDS OVER TOKYO"

SATURDAY, NOV. 18, 12:30 P. M.

S'RENCO SCREENING ROOM

3143 OLIVE STREET, ST. LOUIS, MO.

U. S. Society Seeks Canada Music Tax

TORONTO, Nov. 9.—Notification has been received by the public users of music in Canada, that the American Performing Rights Society has applied to the Government for the expansion of license fee schedules for 1945 to include concert halls, fairs, hotels, and orchestras in addition to theatres and broadcasting stations.

The Canadian Performing Right Society also gave notice of a proposal to raise the annual license fee against radio stations from the present eight cents to 14 cents per set. The Canadian Society also imposes a music tax in varying amounts on all other users of its repertoire, including film exchanges distributing 16mm. films, and theatres. The latter are being charged up to 15 cents per seat for a capacity of 1,600 or over. The Musical Protective Society of Canada, of which Col. John A. Cooper is secretary, has announced its intention of opposing all increases before the Copyright Appeal Board, which will meet in December at Ottawa, to pass on next year's schedules.

Legion Classifies Four New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: A-1, "Sheriff of Las Vegas," Republic; A-2, "And Now Tomorrow" and "The Man in Halfmoon Street," Paramount, and "Bowery to Broadway," Universal.

Hollywood Geared to Meet Big Foreign Film Demands

(*Continued from page* 1)

the 14 principal Hollywood production plants.

It does not take into account the 46 new sound stages that will be available when the production community's $13,575,000 building program, now in abeyance awaiting relaxation of War Production Board controls, is implemented, which presumably will precede the advent of any world-wide condition of market that would require Hollywood to extend itself production-wise.

Predicating a computation of production capacity on the number of sound stages, which places a floor of tangibility under a calculation which of necessity must ignore the fact that pictures can be and sometimes are produced entirely on location, the expansion of facilities would enable Hollywood to turn out 985 a year.

Utilizing present facilities, and preserving the present quality of product and proportion of A pictures to B pictures, the 11 principal companies estimate they could deliver features at the following rates per annum:

Columbia	80	Republic	72
M-G-M	50	20th Cent-Fox	58
Monogram	60	U. A.	41
Paramount	58	Universal	76
PRC	48	Warner	100
RKO Radio	65		
Total			708

Far from anticipating pressures which would force them to an all-out effort in volume production, producers are given to studying past performance, especially that of pre-war years, for clues as to what is to come when the war is over, the *Herald* will say. These tend to reenforce the prevailing feeling that Hollywood can handle with its present resources any demand likely to be made upon it. Here is the record:

Year	*Features*	*Year*	*Features*
1935	503	1939	527
1936	566	1940	479
1937	567	1941	546
1938	491	1942	576
1943	397		

In contrast to the 1943 total, the pre-season announcements of intention by the same 11 companies indicate a total of 488 for 1944-45, although several of those announcements were admittedly tentative of the time of their public disclosure.

Executives Thoughtful

It is not to be gathered from the foregoing statistics, bland as they may appear, that Hollywood is not giving thought to the conditions which will prevail when the firing has died away.

"Production executives do not require reminders on the public appetite for American films in the liberated countries, and still unliberated ones, for they are keenly aware of what's been going on in those areas, with respect to American films," it was said.

"They know, for instance, that the citizens of France have had only one slight peek at Lana Turner and Judy Garland, to name two of many players who have become ranking stars in the unconquered nations, and that all the pictures presenting these players are but a fraction of the total available but unseen product awaiting exhibition in war-frozen areas of the world."

196 from 71 Independents

(*Continued from page* 1)

has witnessed producers directors, writers, players, even exhibitors, forming corporations of their own and setting out to make pictures.

Other reasons include such superficially unrelated matters as taxes, bank credit, artists' desire of autonomy and pride of achievement.

The tax situation is this: Income from a picture produced independently accrues over a period of years instead of in a lump sum. And there's a difference between the tax rate that runs on capital gains and that which runs on salaries. Not even the Treasury Department frowns upon a person who shapes his plans accordingly, it is said.

The matter of bank credits relates directly to the increase in grosses, a barometer of expectancy which has eased materially the conditions under which banking institutions are disposed to make funds available to producers. The variations in banker attitude toward motion picture loans have coincided always with the ebb and flow of ticket coin.

Independents Listed

The following list of independents, both companies and individuals, functioning in Hollywood at this time includes all producers of that category, varying in degrees of independence from those making pictures without definite release arrangements to those producing practically as subsidiaries of major companies:

George Abbott-F. Hugh Herbert-Sol Siegel, William David's Action Pictures, Alexander-Stern, Edward Alperson, the Don McKean-Al Herman American Productions, Seymour Nebenzal's Angelus Productions, Arnold Pressburger's Arnold Productions, the Mervyn LeRoy-Arnold Grant Arrowhead Productions, Associated Film, Constance Bennett, Benedict Bogeaus, Charles Boyer, Biltmore, Samuel Bronston, James S. Burkett, James B. Cassidy, William and James Cagney, Walter Colmes, Don Ameche's Command Pictures, Gary Cooper, Lester Cowan, Bing Crosby, Buddy G. DeSylva, Scott Dunlap, Winfield Sheehan's Eureka Pictures.

Also: Charles K. Feldman, James Fitz-Patrick-Republic, Kay Francis, W. R. Frank, Edward Golden, Harry Gourfain, A. W. Hackel, Hugh Harmon Features, Sam Katzman-Jack Dietz, King Brothers, the Fred MacMurray-Leslie Fenton Mutual Productions, Nero Productions, Producing Artists, Producers Corp. of America, the Mickey Rooney-Morton Briskin-Sam Stiefeld Rooney, Inc., Frank Ross, Bernard Roth-Clarence Greene-Russell Rouse, Jack Schwarz, Jack Skirball's Manhattan Productions, Preston Sturges-Howard Hughes, Ulmer-Chadwick Corp., Vanguard, Hal Wallis, William Wilder, Sydney Williams, Sam Wood.

Also: the following older independents: Walt Disney, Samuel Goldwyn, International Pictures, Sol Lesser, Sigmund Neufeld, William Pine-William Thomas, George Rabinowitch, Arthur Ripley-Rudolph Monter, Charles Rogers, William Rowland, Harry Sherman, Edward Small, Andrew Stone, Hunt Stromberg, David Selznick, Votion Pictures, and others.

Schine to Dispose of Five Theatres November 15

Counsel for Schine Chain Theatres, Inc. announced yesterday that, under the terms of the Temporary Order of May 19, 1942 entered, on consent, by Judge John Knight in the Federal Court in Buffalo, New York, there are still five (5) theatres undisposed of.

These theatres are:

1. **OPERA HOUSE, Lexington Ky, (Leasehold)**
2. **PLAZA THEATRE, Malone, N. Y. (Leasehold)**
3. **ADA MEADE THEATRE, Lexington, Ky. (Leasehold)**
4. **MEMORIAL THEATRE, Mount Vernon, Ohio (Leasehold)**
5. **½ Interest in Corporation holding lease of MARGIE GRAND THEATRE, Harlan, Ky.**

Written offers on all of these theatres are invited. They should be addressed to Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., 40 North Main Street, Gloversville, N. Y. and should be for cash or its equivalent.

All offers must be made and signed by the principal. All offers will be treated as confidential, except for the necessary disclosure to the Court.

All or any of the above-mentioned theatres will be disposed of on or before November 15, 1944 in the event of the receipt of a satisfactory offer for such theatres.

Tradeshows Set for Five by M-G-M

M-G-M will hold five trade showings in all exchange centers. "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" will be shown in all areas, except Philadelphia, on Nov. 13. In Philadelphia, it will be screened on Nov. 16. "The Thin Man Goes Home" is set for all territories for Nov. 21. "Blonde Fever" also will be screened on Nov. 21 except in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Boston, where it is slated for Nov. 22. "Main Street After Dark" is set for Nov. 27 in all exchanges and "Nothing But Trouble" is scheduled for the same date in all areas but Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Boston, where it will be screened the following day.

These pictures do not constitute M-G-M's next block; release dates for the five will be set later.

Geo. Kamen to Lantz

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 9.—Walter Lantz, cartoon producer, has appointed George Kamen his Eastern representative in connection with commercial cartoons and advertising films which the producer plans. Kamen, who was European representative for Walt Disney for many years, is at present managing the 'Quiz Kids.'

Bergher to OWI Film Post in Far East

(*Continued from page* 1)

assignment, was Columbia's manager for Japan for many years. He returned here from Japan in 1941.

Since the Far Eastern operation is still in its formative stages, its structure and policy remain to be finally determined, according to Louis Lober, assistant chief of the OWI's overseas film bureau.

HIS NEWEST, HIS GRANDEST MUSICAL HIT

ROY ROGERS

KING OF THE COWBOYS

TRIGGER

THE SMARTEST HORSE IN THE MOVIES

"LIGHTS OF OLD SANTA FE"

Featuring GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES

and DALE EVANS

LLOYD CORRIGAN • RICHARD POWERS • CLAIRE DU BREY

and BOB NOLAN

and THE SONS OF THE PIONEERS

FRANK McDONALD, Director

Original Screenplay by Gordon Kahn and Bob Williams

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

SONGS...

"Amor" • "The Nerve of Some People" • "Lights of Old Santa Fe" • "Cowboy Jubilee" • "Ride 'Em Cowboy" • "Trigger Hasn't Got A Purty Figger" • "Cowpoke Polka" • "I'm A Happy Guy In My Levi Britches"

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 9

COLUMBIA has purchased rights to "The Walls Came Tumbling Down," a mystery by Joe Eisinger. Samuel Bischoff will produce. . . . Andrew Toombes has been signed by Paramount producers Pine and Thomas for an important part in "Scared Stiff," which will star Jack Haley and Ann Savage. . . . Arthur Lubin will direct Walter Wanger's next for Universal, "A Night in Paradise."

•

Alexander Knox will have the lead opposite Irene Dunne in Columbia's "Over 21". . . . RKO has signed Edward L. Marin to a deal to direct two pictures a year. His first assignment is the forthcoming George Raft vehicle, "Johnny Angel." . . . Fred MacMurray's next for 20th Century-Fox will be "Bandwagon," which William Perlberg will produce and Gregory Ratoff will direct.

•

Oscar Boetticher will direct "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal" for RKO, switching with Will Jason, previously announced for that picture. Instead, Jason will do "Gertie from Bizerte." . . . Bonita Granville and Noah Beery, Jr., have been signed by Universal for the leads in "It's Never Too Late." . . . Monogram has purchased "Hell's Range," short story by Charles N. Heckelmann.

Review

"Cowboy from Lonesome River"

(Columbia) *Hollywood, Nov. 9*

THE unusual element in this Western is the fact that it takes place today. The cowboys fight it out with newspapermen and photographers, one skirmish takes place in the lobby of a swanky hotel, another in a night club. And the standard ingredients are all present in modernized form, resulting in a picture above the average in credibility and interest.

Charles Starrett, Dub Taylor, Jimmy Wakely and his Saddle Pals are victims of a mistaken-identity hoax perpetrated by Ian Keith, Kenneth MacDonald and Vi Athens. The cowboys' fight for passage of a bill to protect the water rights of small ranchers takes them from Mesaville to Capitol City and back again, with action all the way.

Luci Ward's screenplay is a fine translation of a tried-and-true formula into modern terms. Jack Fier is the producer. Benjamin Kline's direction is well sustained.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G"*. THALIA BELL

*"G" denotes general classification.

Crown, Exelberth to Hirliman at IT and T

Alfred W. Crown, former assistant to George A. Hirliman when the latter was president of Film Classics, has been appointed vice president of International Theatrical and Television Corp., which Hirliman now heads. Anne Exelberth, also formerly with Film Classics, as assistant treasurer, has joined I. T. and T. as assistant secretary.

Crown, formerly associated with the Office of Inter-American Affairs, will head sales in the Midwest and West. Miss Exelberth will supervise office personnel.

War Heroes to Make 6th Appearances

Two war heroes, Capt. Ray Wild and Lt. Lewis Largey, who have attended various regional key city film industry meetings representing the Treasury in connection with the Sixth War Loan Drive, will be available for special bond premieres and special personal appearances throughout the country.

All bookings for them must be cleared through Jay Emanuel, national campaign co-ordinator. The industry's national drive committee believes the efforts of the two heroes can be of extra value to exhibitors in selling bonds.

Texas Outlines Its 6th Loan Campaign

DALLAS, Nov. 9.—Henry Reeve, national co-chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan drive in Texas, outlined the campaign for his state today in a series of regional meetings in Austin, Houston, Fort Worth, Tyler, Lubbock and Abilene. Reeve stated that there would be six important points in the bond selling campaign: More theatres participating, greater distributor cooperation, more bond premieres, more children premieres, full cooperation on "Free Movie Day," and a statewide tour of the Texas "G I Jamboree" units, who will visit 133 towns.

Reeve has already been pledged more than 500 Bond premieres, and a "Free Movie Day" in every theatre in Texas.

Para. Earnings Rise To $12,476,000

(Continued from page 1)

pares with earnings for the corresponding 1943 quarter of $4,268,000, including $532,000 of undistributed earnings of subsidiaries.

The board of directors of the company yesterday declared the regular quarterly common stock dividend of 50 cents per share, payable Dec. 29 to holders of record on Dec. 8.

Fire Destroys Grand

WILDWOOD, N. J., Nov. 9.—The Grand Theatre at nearby Cape May has been destroyed by fire. Manager John B. Silver estimated damage at $25,000. The fire also destroyed the Cape May court house.

Warn Allied Of State Tax

(Continued from page 1)

president of the Fox-Wisconsin circuit, urged the exhibitors to fight as an organization.

Ray Colvin, president-secretary of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, told the group not to expect any new equipment until 12 to 18 months after the war. He predicted that projection and sound equipment will cost 25 to 30 per cent more when available. He claimed exhibitors will not have to worry about television's inroads into the theatre field, as "it is now barely in its crystal-set stage."

E. C. Wallau, priorities department chief of the local War Production Board, explained that no priority is needed for the purchase of hardwood flooring which, however, is very scarce, he admitted.

The distributors were represented at the afternoon session by Jim Donahue, Paramount Central division manager, and Claude Lee, the company's public relations counsel. Hinting obviously at industry airings in the courts, Lee told the group that all problems can be solved within the industry if treated with honesty.

Dues Increased

The association's dues were increased from 10 to 15 cents to include the caravan service to each member.

A slate of new officers has been elected. John Adler of Marshfield, Wis., is president, succeeding the five-term president, William Ainsworth of Fond du Lac, Wis., who did not choose to run again. Others elected are: Charles Trampe, Milwaukee, vice-president; George Langhenrich, Milwaukee, treasurer, and Lucille Forbes, Merrill, Wis., secretary. The board of directors, in addition to the officers, includes James Boden, George Panka, George Fischer, Jack Yeo, Donald Black, L. V. Bergtold, Russell Leddy, William Ainsworth and William Smith.

The Sixth War Loan was discussed by Don Woods, Wisconsin distributor chairman, and Fitzgerald. The meeting was attended by nearly 75 members. Tonight's banquet attracted over 600 members from the industry. Over 200 attended the 20th Century-Fox cocktail party which preceded the banquet.

Allied executives who will discuss the consent decree in a closed meeting tomorrow arrived this morning. They are Abram F. Myers, Martin Smith, Pete Wood, Col. H. A. Cole and Sidney E. Samuelson.

Casey Is Here to Set Newsreel Pact

(Continued from page 1)

Local 666, Chicago, are demanding severance pay for the cameramen while the newsreel companies are seeking to insert a provision into the contracts providing for 20 per cent of their staffs to be apprentice cameramen if they so desire it. Casey arrived in New York from Hollywood yesterday and expects to remain here for about four weeks.

Glen Swartz Killed

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 9. — Glen Swartz, brother of Abbott and Don Swartz, PRC franchise holders here, has been killed in action in Italy.

Ross Federal Service, Inc.

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New York City

$9,500 Over Par For 'Marriage' In Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 9.—Business continues fair in most downtown houses. The Boyd, with "Marriage Is a Private Affair," looks like $28,500. Another major opening, "An American Romance," at the Stanley, points to $32,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 8-10:

"Abroad With Two Yanks" (UA)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $14,600).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $18,000).
"Minstrel Man" (PRC) 6 days.
"An American Romance" (M-G-M) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (40c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Jimmy Dorsey and his band, Teddy Walters, Anita Boyer, Ladd Lyon and Otto Eason. Gross: $32,500. (Average: $27,600).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $20,500).
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,600).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (85c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,800).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross $19,400. (Average: $22,500).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. Average: $20,000).
"Strawberry Blonde" (WB, reissue)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,400).

KRS Hits Monopoly Report in 1st Debate

LONDON, Nov. 9.—The Kinematograph Renters Society, following a day-long debate today on the 'monopoly' report of the British Board of Trade's films council, adjourned for a week with only half of the document considered in the discussion. While no official action was taken, the general feeling among the members present was that the report's suggested tribunal for control of the industry and the broad legislation proposed would be damaging to the industry.

As reported today in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, the general council of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association yesterday voted to recommend acceptance of the eight-point program.

Joseph Due Here for 'Singing' Conferences

John Joseph, Universal's national director of advertising-publicity, will arrive in New York Monday from Hollywood, for a series of home office conferences with Maurice Bergman, Eastern director. The discussions will primarily concern the campaign for Universal's new color production, Deanna Durbin's "Can't Help Singing."

The campaign, budgeted at $250,000, is said to be the biggest in the company's history.

Show 'Canteen' Dec. 4

Warners' "Hollywood Canteen" will be nationally tradeshown Monday, Dec. 4. The film will be a special New Year's release.

'Irish' and Bing Increase Heavily

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Nov. 9.—With a teachers convention stepping up business, "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," at the Wisconsin, and "Going My Way," in its 10th week, hit 25 per cent over. Most others were average.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 9:

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,000).
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
"Secret Command" (Col.)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $10,350. (Average: $11,500).
"Sweet and Low Down" (20th-Fox)
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 10th week. Gross: $5,625. (Average: $4,500).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"Minstrel Man" (PRC)
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Oh, What a Night" (Mono.)
Charlie Spivak's Orchestra
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. ross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000).

Kansas City Likes 'Laura': $19,000

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 9.—"Laura," at the Esquire, Uptown and Fairway, totaled around $19,000 for the three theatres. The Midland, with "An American Romance," did about $15,500. The Orpheum, with "The Princess and the Pirate," scored about $13,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 7-10:

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,400).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days Gross: $15,500. (Average: $14,000).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,700. (Average: $10,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c - 65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $10,000).
"San Fernando Valley" (Rep.)
"Bordertown Trail" (Rep.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c - 65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,600).

'Great Moment' and A Show Get $24,300

BUFFALO, Nov. 9.—"The Great Moment" and a stage show will lead here with probably $24,300 at the Buffalo. "The Climax" and another at the Lafayette are expected to hit $16,900, living up to the advance buildup of "horror in color." Grosses were good.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 11:

"The Great Moment" (Para.)
"So You Want to Lead a Band?"
BUFFALO—(3,489) (55c-76c) 7 days. Sammy Kaye and orchestra on stage, with Jerry Mahoney and Paul Winchell. Gross: $24,300. (Average: $17,400).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $16,200).
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,700).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Call of the South Seas" (Rep.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,200).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,900. (Average: $12,400).

'Parkington' Nearly $5,000 Over Par

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 9.—"Mrs. Parkington" is packing them in at Loew's State, with an estimate of $23,000 and is headed for a second week's run.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 8:

"The Conspirators" (WB)
"The Big Noise" 20th-Fox)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,700).
"The Master Race" (RKO)
"Goin' to Town" (RKO)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,700).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $18,900).
"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,900).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,100).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"'Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $6,100).
"Block Busters" (Mono.)
"Oh, What a Night" (Mono.)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,200).

'Lace', 'Skeffington', 'SYWA' Hold Well

TORONTO, Nov. 9.—"Arsenic and Old Lace's" $13,300 was pointing to the largest gross of the week, at the Imperial Theatre, against a second week of "Mr. Skeffington," at Shea's Theatre, which looked like $12,300, and a third week of "Since You Went Away," at Loew's, which had an $12,000 tag.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 9:

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,200).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $12,800).
"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
"This Happy Breed" (British)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $9,800).

SWG Now Open to Industrial Writers

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 9.—Besides Emmet Lavery, president, the Screen Writers Guild tonight elected James Hilton first vice-president, Hugo Butler second vice-president, Ring Lardner, Jr., third vice-president, Michael Kanin treasurer, and Howard Estabrook secretary.

Elected to the executive board were Dalton Trumbo, Marc Connelly, Talbot Jennings, Sheridan Gibney, John Howard Lawson, Oliver H. P. Garrett, Gordon Kahn, Richard Collins, Elmer Rice. Alternates named were Albert Hackett, Betty Reinhardt, Frances Goodrich, Jo Swerling, Harold Buckman and Arthur Kober.

The membership voted an amendment to the by-laws providing that writers experienced in Governmental or industrial screen writing be admittee to guild membership on recommendation of the executive board.

'SYWA' Leader In Chicago's Dull Week

CHICAGO, Nov. 9.—Pre-election doldrums set in early and gave the Loop a dull week-end. The condition was anticipated, however, and most houses either sliced their budgets or carried on with holdovers. State Lake still topped the parade with "Since You Went Away," the third week grossing a very nice $37,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 9:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (80c-$1.10) 3rd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average, 35c-95c scale: $11,400).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c) Stage: Andrews Sisters and revue. Gross: $41,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Sing, Neighbor, Sing" (Rep.)
DOWNTOWN—(1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c) Stage: Gay 90's Revue. Gross: $13,500.
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,100).
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M reissue)
"Bowery Champs" (Mono.) 6 days
"Abroad With Two Yanks" (UA)
"Murder in the Blue Room" (Univ.) 1 day, 2nd Loop week
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,100).
"Strange Affair" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c - 55c - 85c - 95c) Stage: Lawrence Welk and orchestra. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $24,000).
"Abroad With Two Yanks" (UA)
"Murder in the Blue Room" (Univ.) 6 days
"The Master Race" (RKO)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.) 1 day
PALACE—(2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox) 5 days, 2nd week
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB) 2 days
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) Gross: $18,500. (Average: $20,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $37,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 6th week. Gross: $16,500 (Average: $10,000).

NAB Board Meets in Chicago Nov. 14-15

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—National Association of Broadcasters' board of directors will meet in Chicago, Nov. 14-15. Heading the agenda will be a discussion of NAB's 1945 budget and the creation of a bureau to measure station circulation.

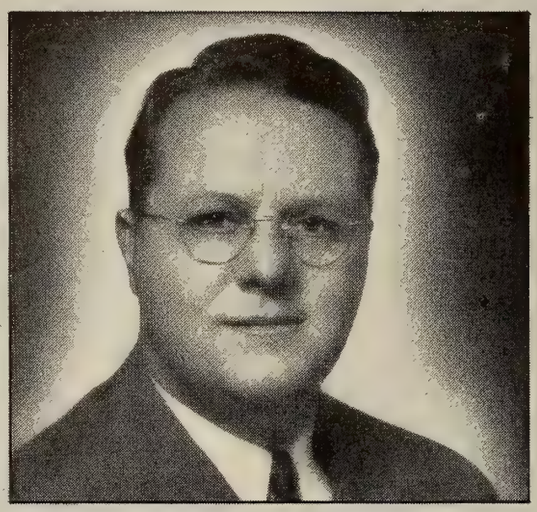
Preliminary plans for a series of district meetings in 1945, as well as the next annual membership meeting, will also be considered by the directors, who will also hear a report on the recent Federal Communications Commission allocation hearings from NAB president J. Harold Ryan.

5,000 War Workers at Premiere of WB Film

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 9.—Five thousand workers from 200 war plants in this area attended the 'double-header' premiere here tonight of Warner's "The Very Thought of You," at the Hollywood and Downtown Theatres.

Lt. Col. Samuel Metzger, manpower officer of the Western procurement district, paid tribute at the premieres to the accomplishments of films both on the home front and on the battle fronts in boosting morale and providing entertainment.

It's HIGH TIME *this question was openly discussed*

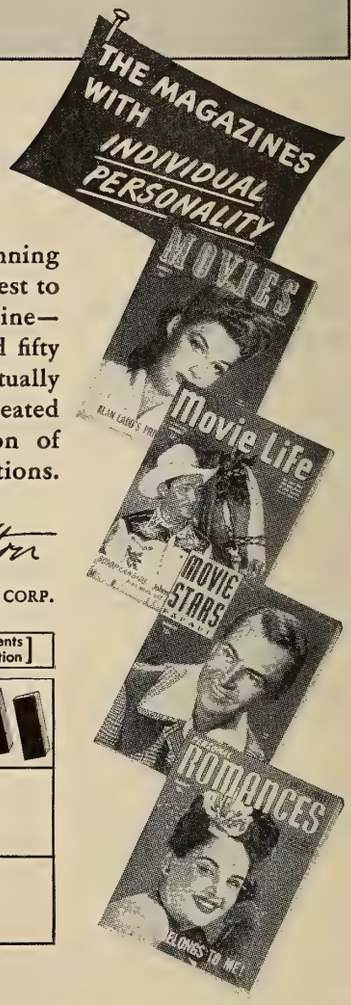


The fact that the circulation of the Women's Groups—13,100,000—is virtually equal to the circulation of the Women's Service Magazines —13,600,000—is important, but it is far less important than the manner in which both were obtained.

The growth of the Women's Groups is a phenomenon of a decade or more, made the more remarkable because it has been based almost entirely, and certainly unprecedentedly, upon voluntary purchases at the newsstands.

Women's Groups have earned this immense circulation because they satisfy a definite modern reader need and demand.

Let's look at the record...



Ten years ago young housewives and the wage-earner groups were beginning to realize that the Women's Groups contained editorial matter of real interest to them. Nobody asked them to subscribe. They sought out their favorite magazine—and bought it. Sales grew. The Groups, matured and seasoned, increased fifty per cent by 1939. And, in the first six months of 1944, their circulation virtually equalled that of the Women's Service Magazines. This great new market, created by the selective process of reader preference, has assumed a position of importance that cannot be easily disregarded in advertising considerations.

William M Cotton

PRESIDENT, IDEAL PUBLISHING CORP.

CIRCULATION GROWTH 1934 - 1944 [one book represents 2 millions circulation]

WOMEN'S SERVICE MAGAZINES — WOMEN'S GROUPS

THE IDEAL WOMEN'S GROUP · THE PAY-ENVELOPE CLASS MAGAZINES

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(One of a series of advertisements appearing nationally, comparing the growth of the Women's Groups' magazines with the Women's Service magazines)

First in Film and Radio News Brief Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 92 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Warners Hold To 20 for New Season

But Building Backlog at Burbank, Regardless

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—The present trend of Warner Bros. releases indicates that there will not be more than 20 features for 1944-45, despite pre-season reports that the company would raise its total above the 19 released last year. Regardless, capacity production is nevertheless being maintained at the Burbank studios. The company has about 20 features in cutting rooms or completed.

Starting with "Hotel Berlin," which goes before the cameras on Monday, Jack L. Warner has set an additional 10 pictures to get underway in the next 10 weeks. With the company aiming practically all of its productions for the "A" brackets, it is understood that the reason for maintaining capacity pro-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Wisconsin Urged to Back Postwar WAC

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 12.—Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox-Wisconsin Theatres and state War Activities Committee chairman, has asked members of the I.T.O. of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan for cooperation to encourage continuance of the WAC.

The independent exhibitor organization, which closed its two-day annual convention here on Friday, did not, however, disclose whether it or Al-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Johnston, Burrows Here on Stock Issue

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, and George Burroughs, vice-president and treasurer, arrived here from the Coast on Friday to conduct negotiations with Emanuel and Co., for a new issue of 100,000 shares of preferred stock at $10 par value.

Monogram stockholders will meet Dec. 6 in Los Angeles to authorize an increase in the capital stock from 1,000,000 shares. Election of officers and directors is also on the agenda. The new shares will be offered by Emanuel and Co., when authorized, at a yearly dividend rate of 50 to 60 cents a share. The company is expected to realize $860,000 on the sale.

Schine Trial Ends, Answers Feb. 1

Buffalo, Nov. 12. — The Schine anti-trust trial ended here Friday, following introduction into evidence of several more documents by Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice. Judge John Knight ordered the Government's brief filed by Dec. 15, and the defendant's by Jan. 15, and set next Feb. 1 as the date for answers.

Schenck Again Heads 'Dimes'

President Roosevelt has again named Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, to serve as national chairman of the film industry's 1945 March of Dimes drive. This will be Schenck's fourth term as head of the infantile paralysis campaign. The drive in theatres will take place late in January, exact dates to be determined later, following a meeting of an executive committee which will be named by Schneck.

Nicholas M. Schenk

"Since I saw you on Sept. 7," wrote

(*Continued on page 6*)

Schless in Charge For Paramount in Europe and Africa

The post of Paramount's European division manager has been assigned to Robert Schless by John W. Hicks, Jr., president of Paramount International Films. He will manage all of Continental Europe, the Near East and North Africa, with headquarters in Paris. Schless will take temporary headquarters today at the Paramount home office.

Robert Schless

At the same time, Hicks also named Henri Michaud assistant to Schless; and Elias Lapinere to public rela-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Conciliation Code Gets Main Approval

TORONTO, Nov. 12.—Announcement was made at the weekend by secretary E. H. Wells of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association after the second meeting of the week of general managers that the proposed conciliation code, providing for regional dispute boards had been approved by a number of distributing companies, but he added that several signatures to the agreement are yet to be secured, pending further

(*Continued on page 6*)

L. A. Theatres Well Fixed On Equipment

Stocked Up Right After Pearl Harbor Touchoff

By THALIA BELL

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 12.—There will be no rush to buy new equipment on the part of Los Angeles theatre operators when wartime restrictions are lifted, for the simple reason that exhibitors in this area, by their own admission, had foresight. Scarcely had the smoke cleared over Pearl Harbor than these operators began to lay in supplies of mechanical equipment, carpeting, ticket-takers, coin-changers, ladders, flashlights—everything necessary to continue a well-equipped theatre.

To quote a typical independent exhibitor: J. M. Sutton of the Hawaii and Elite, theatres, Hollywood: "The purchasing department was on its toes." Or a large-circuit operator, Ben-

(*Continued on page 6*)

WLB Grants Service Help Wage Boosts

The Regional War Labor Board in Boston has approved a 10 per cent wage increase, retroactive to Dec., 1942, for about 150 exchange film inspectors, shippers and poster clerks in Boston and New Haven exchanges.

The regional board in Seattle had previously approved a similar increase for workers in Seattle exchanges.

Testimonial Tonight For Lou Golding

ALBANY, Nov. 12.—Three hundred of the industry from New York home offices and from Albany, Buffalo and elsewhere will attend the testimonial tomorrow night at the Hotel TenEyck here for Lou Golding, recently named general manager of Wilmer-Vincent-Fabian circuit. Scheduled to attend

(*Continued on page 6*)

Film Industry Asked to TBA Video Meet Dec. 11

Details of the first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association to be held at the Hotel Commodore in New York on Dec. 11-12 were disclosed at the weekend by Jack R. Poppele, chairman of the conference, at a press luncheon here.

The program, Poppele indicated, has been formulated for those now operating, or who are planning to operate in television stations, including the film industry.

Highlights include a banquet on Dec. 11, at which special programs televised by New York stations will be received.

The opening general session on Dec. 11 will feature six talks by leaders in television: Dr. W. R. G. Baker, General Electric; E. W. Engstrom, RCA Laboratories; John F. Royal, NBC; Robert L. Gibson, General Electric; Thomas H. Hutchinson, RKO Television; Harold S. Osborne, American Telephone and Telegraph.

Panel meetings on television as it affects motion pictures, the theatre, talent and newspapers, arranged by Dorman D. Israel of Emerson Radio, will be held on the afternoon of Dec. 11. A reception sponsored by NBC, Philco and General Electric will be held on the first day.

Highlighting the second days' meetings will be a round table led by Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith.

Reviewed Today

Reviews of the following appear on page 8: Republic's "Strangers in the Night" and "Vigilantes of Dodge City," and PRC's "Swing Hostess" and "The Town Went Wild."

Personal Mention

WILLARD McKAY and SAUL ROGERS, New York; EDWARD F. McCLENNEN, Boston, of Schine Theatre counsel; ROBERT L. WRIGHT, of the Department of Justice, Washington, and JOHN F. CASKEY, New York, representing distributors, have returned from Buffalo.

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MRS. LEON FROMKESS, wife of the president of PRC Pictures, both of whom are in New York on a visit from the Coast, will leave Leroy Sanatarium tomorrow following an operation.

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MAURICE GOLDEN, M-G-M talent scout in the Midwest, and GRACE CHRISTENSEN, RKO contract player, were married in Chicago Nov. 13.

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JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager for Warners, left yesterday for Indianapolis and Cincinnati.

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BERNARD SEAMON, manager of the Hippodrome, Baltimore, is recovering from an operation at the Sinai Hospital there.

•

WILLIAM K. SAXTON, city manager for Loew Theatres in Baltimore, spent the weekend on Long Island.

•

BETTY FRENCH, film editor of the Akron *Beacon Journal*, will arrive in New York Nov. 19.

•

HARVEY DAY, Terrytoons sales manager, has returned to New York from a tour of Southern exchanges.

•

TED O'SHEA, Eastern sales manager of M-G-M, is in Albany.

Mort Nathanson to Todd Productions

Morton Nathanson has been named press representative for Michael Todd Productions. He will handle publicity for all of film and theatre activities, as well as press promotion on the two current Broadway productions.

Nathanson had been Eastern publicity-advertising director for Samuel Goldwyn.

Paramount Sets 5 In Third Block

Trade screenings for Paramount's third block for 1944-45 have been set for Dec. 14 and 15, Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of sales, reports.

The five in the block are: "Here Come the Waves," Dangerous Passage," "For Whom the Bell Tolls" (released for the first time at popular prices); "Practically Yours" and "Double Exposure."

'Again' Pre-Released

Columbia has set more than 90 prerelease engagements for "Together Again." Pre-release runs start on Nov. 14, with national release on Dec. 22.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ONE week from today will mark the first anniversary of the expiration of the three-year trial period of the industry consent decree. The fact that the five consenting distributors continued to observe, and still are observing, those provisions of the decree which expired earlier, together with the decree provisions which remained in force, has given the industry, for all practical purposes, a four-year decree trial period, rather than the three-year period originally intended by both the Department of Justice and the companies.

The industry's time-worn problems remain after four (count 'em) decree years. Is there any sound reason for believing the Department's new decree proposals promise more or better results?

•

The fourth anniversary of the decree, Nov. 20, may well see the inception of Department action to bring its new decree proposals to hearing. In any event, time is running out. Distributors appear to be uniformly of a mind that the issues must and should be determined in the courts. There is no indication now that they will seek further negotiations with the Department looking to the drafting of a new decree. Rather their thinking and their preparations are in the direction of trial and final determination of the theories of operation within this industry that are proposed by the Department.

•

The contest in the courts will be a lengthy one. It is very likely to be years before it is decided—before changes (if any ensue) can be placed in effect. Moreover, it is not conceivable that any changes which may be made will solve all of the problems of exhibition and distribution, once and for all. The industry's experience with litigation thus far repudiates any such likelihood. It tends more to show that existing problems may be compounded or, at best, replaced by new ones.

Certainly the Department's present theories of how films should be bought and sold, of circuit ownership — by whom and where and how—offer no solution of fundamental exhibition-distribution problems, even were those theories to be upheld by the courts. Indeed, the Department's theory of film marketing, suggesting as it does how many films may be sold to whom and under what conditions, and imposing penalties for infractions of the rules, would appear to be far more applicable to narcotics or other contraband than to the commercial product of a great and extremely important industry.

Let the Department's theories prevail and their not unlikely consequences could be bureaucratic control of production and exhibition and the operation of studios and theatres under Federal licenses.

•

Apart from their possible serious consequences, the important thing is that the Department's proposals offer very little promise of solving or settling exhibition and distribution problems which are very much in need of attention; not years from now, but now. What is the answer?

One of the newest and, to our way of thinking, one of the best to be made in recent years, is offered by the Southern California Theatre Owners Association. The organization last week advanced a plan for its membership under which individual efforts would be made first to settle any disputes arising between exhibitor and distributor. If such efforts failed, Albert J. Law, executive secretary and general counsel of the organization, would act as arbitrator or would aid in the selection of industry-experienced arbitrators to settle the dispute. In the latter case, his services as counsel would be available to the exhibitor without other cost than the ordinary membership dues paid to the organization.

The plan is simple and could be extremely effective. It meets the principal objections to organized industry arbitration which have been voiced by many exhibitors and several exhibitor organizations. Yet it does not do away with organized arbitration for those who prefer it. The plan calls only for a form of cooperation between exhibitor and distributor which good will and good intent can supply and to which even the Department of Justice, which presumably can detect collusion between a pillar and the railroad trestle it supports, probably could find no objection.

Coming Events

Today—Variety Club testimonial dinner for Lou Golding, Ten Eyck Hotel, Albany.

Nov. 14—'Night of Stars' for United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 15—North and South Jersey units of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey meeting at the Hotel Stacy-Trent, Trenton, N. J.

Nov. 16-19—Mexican Theatre Owners Convention, Mexico City.

Nov. 16-19—M-G-M sales meeting, Netherlands Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati.

Nov. 17 — Sixth War Loan campaign breakfast, Hotel Astor, New York.

Nov. 20—Sixth War Loan rally, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 20-Dec. 16—Sixth War Loan Campaign.

Nov. 20-Dec. 24—American Federation of Labor conference, New Orleans.

Nov. 23-25—National Free Movie Day for Sixth War Loan.

Dec. 6 — Monogram stockholders' meeting.

Dec. 11-12—Television Broadcasters Association meeting, Hotel Commodore, New York.

Dec. 13—Picture Pioneers' annual dinner, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

Jan. 2-6—Annual meeting of M-G-M field auditors, Hotel Astor, New York.

Jackson Paramount Eastern Story Editor

Alan Jackson, former member of the editorial staffs of *Time, Fortune* and the *Saturday Evening Post*, has been named Eastern story editor of Paramount, succeeding Michard Mealand, who was recently promoted to head the company's story and writing departments at the Hollywood studio.

Jackson, whose appointment was announced at the weekend by Russell Holman, head of Paramount's Eastern production department, has just finished as a lieutenant in the Navy, stationed in New York with the book and magazine section of Navy Public Relations.

Lt. Doherty of WB Dies In Germany

Lt. Jack Bryer Doherty, 28, former Warner Bros. home office reproduction department employee, and nephew of H. M. Doherty, head of the company's exchange auditing department, was killed in action in Germany last month. He had entered service in Jan., 1941, after being a member of the New York National Guard, and had been awarded the Purple Heart after being wounded in the Normandy invasion last July.

His wife, Jean, also saw service overseas as a lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps, attached to the Eighth Air Force.

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LOOK WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU!

VIVIAN BLAINE, The Cherry Blonde

Something For The Boys

...something terrific
—and in TECHNICOLOR—
to top all the
gross-topping
musicals from...

CARMEN MIRANDA · MICHAEL O'SHEA
VIVIAN BLAINE (The Cherry Blonde) in "SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS" with Phil Silvers · Sheila Ryan · Perry Como · Glenn Langan · Directed by LEWIS SEILER
Produced by IRVING STARR in Technicolor
Screen Play by Robert Ellis, Helen Logan and Frank Gabrielson
Based on the Musical Comedy Book by Herbert and Dorothy Fields
Cole Porter Songs · Music and Lyrics New Songs by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson · Dances Staged and Directed by Nick Castle

20th CENTURY-FOX

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Variety Earmarks $30,000 for Charity

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Proceeds from National Variety's annual dinner-dance, to be held here Nov. 25, at the Willard Hotel, are expected to exceed $30,000, all of which will be turned over to the various charitable activities.

At the local Variety's election, Fred Kogod, president of Kogod-Burka Theatres, was named chief barker, succeeding John S. Allen, M-G-M branch manager, who becomes a member of the board. Others elected were: Jo Edward Fontaine, Paramount, first assistant chief barker; Nathan D. Golden, Department of Commerce's motion picture unit, second assistant; Jake Flax, Republic, property master; Sam Galanty, Columbia, reelected treasurer. Galanty has held that post since the local tent was organized.

Elected to the board were: Charles E. Peppiatt, 20th Century-Fox; reelected to the board of governors were: George Crouch, Warner Theatres; A. E. Lichtman, Lichtman Theatres; Carter Barron, Loew's; Rudolph Berger, M-G-M; Harry Bachman, Circle Theatre. Ex-officio members of the board are, in addition to Allen: Sam Wheeler, Vince Dougherty, Hardie Meakin and Sidney Lust. Lollie Feldman continues as executive secretary.

Barron announced that the local unit will hold a reception for national officers on Thanksgiving night, to be followed by the annual 'Humanitarian Award' dinner the following evening, at the Mayflower Hotel.

Cincinnati Variety Names 'Canvassmen'

CINCINNATI, Nov. 12.—Local Variety has elected the following canvassmen for 1945: Lev Bugie, 20th-Fox; Harry David, Northio Theatres; Harris Dudelson, United Artists; Arthur Frudenfeld, RKO; Mike Greenberg; Saul Greenberg, club secretary; Harry Hartman, Station WCPO; Ralph Kinsler, Shard Circuit; Allan S. Moritz, Columbia; Pete Niland, Columbia; Henry Wessel, Film Service Co.

Also serving will be past chief barkers William Onie and F. W. Huss, Jr., and current chief barker Maurice White. The canvassmen will elect officers for the coming year at a dinner-meeting Monday night.

New Atlanta Variety Board is Named

ATLANTA, Nov. 12.—Charles Durmeyer, W. K. Jenkins and Charles Kessnick have been named to the local Variety board. Reelected were: Jack Dumestre, R. B. Wilby, Paul Wilson, Willis David, Dave Prince, Fred Coleman, Sid Reams and Harry Balance.

Dumestre, who has served as chief barker during the past year, was extended a vote of thanks by the board.

20th-Fox Names Glasier

TORONTO, Nov. 12.—Sam Glasier has been named promotion representative for 20th Century-Fox in Canada, becoming the first to hold that post for that company in the Dominion, it was reported by Sydney Samson, Canadian general manager for 20th-Fox. The job was formerly handled out of New York.

Southern Bondsmen Hold Rally at Charlotte Today

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 12.—Exhibitors, distributors, district and branch managers and salesmen in North and South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida and Texas, will attend the Sixth War Loan Drive meeting here tomorrow at the Charlotte Hotel. Mayor H. H. Baxter of Charlotte, will welcome the delegates, and the meeting will be presided over by Roy Rowe, former president of the Theatre Owners Association of North and South Carolina.

Among those scheduled to be present will be William F. Crockett, vice-chairman for the drive; H. M. Richey; Capt. Ray Wild; and exhibitor state chairmen R. M. Kennedy, Alabama; Claude Mundo, Arkansas; E. V. Richards, Louisiana; J. L. Cartwright, Florida; John Q. Adams and Phil Isley, Texas; E. W. Street and Kermit Stengal, Tennessee; Burgess Waltmon and Arthur Lehmann, Mississippi; George D. Carpenter, North Carolina; Warren Irwin, South Carolina and George Roscoe, assistant district chairman of the Carolinas.

Missouri 6th Meet In St. Louis Today

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 12.—A luncheon will launch the motion picture theatres' participation in the Sixth War Loan Drive tomorrow, at the Coronado Hotel, St. Louis, Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners ssociation of Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois, has announced. All theatre owners and managers in Eastern Missouri have been invited to attend.

Martin Burnett, manager of Loew's State here, and Rex Barrett, of Columbia, Mo., are the co-chairmen of the committee in charge of the drive in Eastern Missouri. Plans include a free movie every Monday night during the campaign.

Lesser Group Meets On War Loan Tomorrow

Broadway theatre executives and managers will meet tomorrow at luncheon at Toots Shor's to discuss plans for the Sixth War Loan. Irving Lesser is Broadway area chairman. The discussion will concern theatre plans, Times Square arrangements and the appointment of a reception committee for the Sixth War Loan 'Radio Revue' at Madison Square Garden on Nov. 20.

Among others expected to attend are: Malcolm Kingsberg, New York area chairman of the drive, and WAC and Treasury representatives.

Albany Revised for 6th Opening Nov. 15

ALBANY, Nov. 12.—C. J. Latta, New York state chairman for the industry's Sixth War Loan drive, has revised the Albany territory to facilitate bond sales by further breaking down all areas and appointing co-chairmen. Appointed were: William Smalley, Central Albany; William Benton, Eastern Albany; James Papayanakos, Northern Albany; Henry Grossman, Southern Albany; Andy Roy and Charles Gordon, Utica; Guy Graves and Sidney Dwore, Schenectady; Sid Sommer and Milton Schosberg, Troy.

The Albany bond rally will open Nov. 15 at the Palace Theatre, with all bond purchasers admitted free. A children's show will be held at either the Palace or Strand on a Saturday morning, and Dec. 7 will be "Free Movie Day."

War Loan Gets Head Start on Broadway

The Sixth War Loan bond sales drive had a pre-campaign start Friday on Times Square where an 'all-star' program, which included theatre and night club performers and several bands, was presented between 12 o'clock noon and 2 P.M.

Among those who appeared were: Johnnie Johnston, Ella Mae Morse, Bob Strong's orchestra, Arlene Francis and the Women's Army Corps band. Tickets for the Capitol Theatre's bond premiere of M-G-M's "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" were given with bond buys.

Roy Rogers Aids 6th In Exhibitors Meet

BOSTON, Nov. 12.—Roy Rogers rode his horse, Trigger, into the Hotel Statler here last Friday, where 450 exhibitors from Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island met to pledge all-out support of the industry's Sixth War Loan drive. Rogers' appearance followed the presentation, by Sam Pinanski, state exhibitor bond chairman, of a testimonial pledge, bearing the signatures of all present, to Harry Brandt, heading the national committee, and which promised 100 per cent cooperation.

Grainger to Dallas On 6th Sale Drive

J. R. Grainger, Republic president, left New York for Dallas yesterday, to discuss the Sixth War Loan Drive with sales forces in Dallas, Oklahoma City and Memphis. He will stress the Bond Premieres and Free Movie Days. Grainger will return to New York Nov. 20.

Introduce Cowles Heads

Representatives of Cowles Broadcasting Co. of the Midwest, including Craig Lawrence, Merle Jones, Ted Enns and Jack Paige, who have come East to operate Cowles stations WHOM, New York and WOL, Washington, will be introduced to the New York press at a luncheon at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria here today.

MGM Buys 'Josephine'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—M-G-M has purchased screen rights to "Josephine," the new Booth Tarkington novel. Leon Gordon will produce.

Trauner Exchange Chief

Saul Trauner has been appointed manager of Columbia's New York exchange, succeeding Irving Wormser, resigned, it was announced at the weekend by Abe Montague, general sales manager.

Dalton to OWI

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Neil Dalton, Louisville newspaper executive, has been installed as director of the domestic branch of the Office of War Information, succeeeding George W. Healy, Jr.

Theatre War Fund Collection Dec. 14

Theatres in New York's five boroughs, and Nassau and Suffolk counties, will collect for the National War Fund during the week of Dec. 14-20, according to a weekend announcement by Fred Schwartz, exhibitor co-chairman of the War Activities Committee in the New York area. Ed. Rugoff, independent exhibitor, will head a special campaign committee.

The collection will supplement distribution of a ten-minute short, "Memo for Joe," starring Quentin Reynolds, plus an advertising campaign contributed by the WAC. A regional campaign is being planned with meetings scheduled for WAC representatives in New York, of which the first will be held later this week, as called by Ralph Pielow, head of the distributors' division.

A trailer with a film star making the War Fund appeal is in preparation, Schwartz stated. Preparation of a special manual for the campaign is being handled by Harry Mandel, WAC chairman for the New York area.

WB Appoints Abeles Argentina Manager

Arthur Abeles, Jr., formerly manager for Warner Bros. in Uruguay, will take over the post of general manager for the company in Argentina, with supervision over Uruguay and Chile, effective Dec. 4, it was announced at the weekend by Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner Bros. International Corp., in charge of South America, Australia, New Zealand and the Far East.

Abeles will succeed Harry Novak, resigned.

Fine New WAC Head In Cleveland Area

Meyer Fine, independent exhibitor in Cleveland, has accepted the post of War Activities Committee exhibitor chairman for the area, succeeding William Skirball. Fine joins Maury Orr and E. J. Fisher, distributor chairman and public relations chairman, respectively, as heads of the activities for theatres operating out of the Cleveland territory.

RKO May Release 'Rats of Tobruk'

"Rats of Tobruk," about the stand of Allied troops against the Germans in Africa, which is now being filmed in Australia, may be distributed by RKO.

Shooting of the production, in which RKO is participating financially, is almost at an end, and decision as to whether the company will distribute will be made after its completion, according to Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution.

Ed McNamara Dies

BOSTON, Nov. 12.—Edward C. McNamara, 60, died here at the weekend while supervising transportation of James Cagney's possessions being shipped to California. McNamara, a former actor, last appeared in the Cagneys' "Johnny Come Lately."

Schenck Again Heads 'Dimes'

(Continued from page 1)

President Roosevelt to Schenck, "I've had a chance to review the report you gave me at that time showing details of the results of the Motion Picture Theatres' March of Dimes last January. As I write, this year's incidence of infantile paralysis already exceeds that reported during the entire year of 1943. It's obvious, therefore, that the splendid work you, your committee, the motion picture owners and the entire industry have done for those stricken with this disease assumes an especial significance at this particular time.

"I fully realize that this great humanitarian accomplishment was the result of all of you devoting great time and effort to the crusade against a devastating disease. It is a crusade that will not cease until we have won victory—to the attainment of which the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis is dedicated. Aided by the generous support of the American people and by the continuing interest and cooperation of the motion picture industry, that day of victory draws ever closer," said Roosevelt.

In previous motion picture drives, audiences have contributed, in millions of small donations, over $8,500,000. In the 1944 drive, when $4,667,000 was collected, solicitation was made in over 11,000 theatres with nearly 9,000,000 seats. They averaged 54 cents per seat.

Testimonial Set For Lou Golding

(Continued from page 1)

are: Joseph Bernhard, Ted O'Shea, Abe Montague, Sam Rosen, Si Fabian, Tom Connors, Neil Agnew, Sam Lefkowitz, Ed Schnitzer, Maurice Bergman, Lou Astor, Carl Charlotte, Harry Thomas, George Schaeffer, Ed Callahan, John Scully, Ira Cohen, Harry Kalmine and Maurice Wolf.

A Buffalo group will be headed by Phil Fox; Boston, headed by Moe Grassgreen, will have 18. Also scheduled are: M. A. Silver, Jay Golden, Harry Unterfort, J. Meyer Schine and L. W. Schine, Earl Sweigert, Ralph Pielow, Carter Barron, William Phillips, Harry Shaw, Joseph Eagen and William Howard. Washington, Newark, New Haven, as well as many from the Wilmer-Vincent, Warner Bros., RKO, Schine and Kallet circuits will also attend.

Conciliation Code Gets Main Approval

(Continued from page 1)

consideration by exchange companies.

S. B. Taube, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, announced that the board of that organization had approved the draft with several minor changes, which apparently will be referred to other trade branches for consideration. President of MPTA is N. A. Taylor, head of the 20th Century theatres circuit, and members are both circuits and independents in Ontario.

L. A. Theatres Are Well Fixed on Equipment Needs

(Continued from page 1)

jamin Wallerstein of Warner Theatres: "We foresaw this thing, and are now in pretty good shape. Our theatres are in very fine physical condition."

Again, Gus Metzger of Metzger Theatres in the San Diego area, says: "We have kept our houses up to date. The first year of the war we put in a very large supply of emergency equipment which we were able to secure at that time, and we have been able to get everything else we needed. In some of our houses, we are putting down carpeting that we have had in storage for two years."

When the point was pressed, however, some exhibitors admitted that there were a few little things they could use, if they could get them. Harry Wallen, manager of the Paramount-Hollywood, after stating, "I am one theatre manager who does not need anything," added "I could use some boys for ushers, employees interested in their jobs." Rube Wolff, manager of the Paramount-Downtown, endorsed his associate's remarks.

Hits Irresponsibility

Sutton similarly stated, "What I need is some employees who consider that they still have a responsibility toward their employer. I want ushers and doormen who know that the show must go on, and do not call up five minutes before the box-office opens to say that they will not be in."

Another exhibitor, head of a large circuit, confided: "We are all at the bottom of the barrel insofar as good employees and showmen are concerned. We are just getting by with people who would not be with us under other circumstances. But we do not dare say so too loud, for fear the ones we have got will quit."

Seats and carpets would be next in demand. As Milroy Anderson, manager of the Hillstreet Theatre, explained, "Seats are the first thing I am going to buy when wartime restrictions are lifted. After that, a good carpet. After that, a new marquee."

Sherrill Corwin, operator of the Los Angeles Theatre, expressed similar views. The majority of exhibitors questioned admit a growing need for seats and carpets.

A spokesman for the Newsvue Theatre, showing newsreels, and the Hitching Post, devoted to Westerns, said: "The Newsvue has the latest type of pushback seats, installed shortly before the war. As for the Hitching Post, some of the seats are obviously in bad shape. But as fast as we recover them, the kids come in and slash them up. So what's the use of replacing them?"

A Little Foresight

William Foy, of Fox West Coast Theatres, stressing the fact "We had a little foresight, and as far as mechanical equipment goes, we have not suffered much," added "There is quite a shortage of everything, particularly seats and carpets. As fast as materials become available, we are going to re-seat and re-carpet a number of houses. After seats and carpets, we will need coin-changers and ticket-takers. We protected ourselves on mechanical equipment. When we bought new projection machines for the Carthay Circle, for instance, we passed the equipment from that theatre along to an inferior house, and so on. We have been able to get parts for repairs most of the time."

A contrary note is sounded, however, by Albert J. Law, executive secretary and general counsel of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, who said:

"Practically every theatre owner is developing plans for rehabilitating his house. The SCTOA is making a very comprehensive survey of the situation and committees are working on the matter at the present time."

Wisconsin Urged to Back Postwar WAC

(Continued from page 1)

lied States, with which it is affiliated, will participate in any way with WAC in the event the latter organization is continued after the war.

"It will be a serious mistake," Fitzgerald said, "to abandon the WAC, which has done so much good for the war effort and the industry.

The pending Federal proposals for amendment of the industry consent decree were discussed at a closed session on Friday by Abram F. Myers, Martin Smith, H. A. Cole, Sidney Samuelson, William Ainsworth, P. J. Wood and John Adler.

Harry Perlevitz, business manager of the Association, revealed that he is working with the city attorney here on an amendment to the municipal "standing-room-only" ordinance, which prohibits the sale of tickets after all seats are filled.

Fire Destroys Two

LEXINGTON, Ky., Nov. 12.—Theatre fires are reported to have destroyed two Kentucky houses, the White Pine Theatre in White Pine and the Gaines in Pineville.

Metro Honors 20th Anniversary Aids

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 12.—M-G-M honored the district managers and bookers of the Fox Wisconsin chain at a luncheon at the Schroeder Hotel here Friday for their participation in the company's 20th anniversary week drive. Three of the 20 bronze plaques awarded throughout the country for outstanding campaigns went to Fox managers. The plaques were presented by Jack Flynn, Metro's Western division manager, to Hugo Birmingham, Palace manager; Harry Boesel, Wisconsin manager; Gene Kilburg, downtown district, and Harold J. Fitzgerald, circuit president.

Among those present were Sam Shirley, Metro District manager; Walter Brooks, Metro executive from New York, and Paul Mooney, assistant to the National Screen Service president, in town to attend the ITO of Wisconsin convention.

Fire Damages Berea

BEREA, O., Nov. 12.—Fire, believed to have started in a dressing room, destroyed equipment of the Berea Theatre, owned and operated by Scoville, Essick and Reif.

Schless in Charge For Para. in Europe

(Continued from page 1)

tions, publicity and advertising director for the Schless division.

Before joining Paramount International, Schless was general foreign manager for Warner Bros. from 1940 to last month. He had been with Warners in Europe for 16 years, serving in various executive capacities.

Michaud was formerly a divisional film sales executive in Europe, and recently had special assignments in Latin America. At the outbreak of the war, Michaud joined the Free French Forces as a lieutenant of artillery. He was decorated with the Croix de Guerre. He was demobilized in 1941, after which he resumed his film work.

Lapinere was a film advertising director in Europe for five years, up to 1933, and from then to 1940 he was Metro's European advertising-publicity chief. Four years ago he came to the United States, where he conducted his own advertising business in New York.

With Schless' appointment, a realignment of Paramount foreign department divisional heads has been completed. Previously named by Hicks were: James E. Perkins, Far Eastern and South African divisional manager, covering all territory including India, China, the Philippine Islands, Dutch East Indies, Straits Settlements, Burma, Ceylon, New Zealand, Australia, while A. L. Pratchett has been made Latin-American divisional manager. Robert Graham has been named a special overseas representative.

Warners Hold to 20 For New Season

(Continued from page 1)

duction despite the slow rate of release is that it is taking the company longer to produce films in view of the increased budgets.

Warners has set eight for release up to Dec. 30. With "To Have and Have Not," "Rhapsody in Blue," "Saratoga Trunk," "Objective Burma" and "The Corn Is Green" among others, not set for release, it is expected that the September-December trend of only two films a month will not be maintained thereafter. "Hollywood Canteen," set for Dec. 30 release, is expected to receive most of its sales emphasis in January. "To Have and Have Not" will probably follow.

Others completed and awaiting release include: "The Horn Blows at Midnight," "Roughly Speaking," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Men Without Destiny" (a remake of "Petrified Forest"), "Devotion," "Animal Kingdom," "My Reputation," "Christmas in Connecticut," "Conflict," "Of Human Bondage" and "Cinderella Jones."

Three additional films are nearing completion. They are "Nobody Lives Forever," "San Antonio" and "The Big Sleep." Films to go into production in the next 10 weeks, besides "Hotel Berlin," include: "House on the Sand," "Stolen Life," "This Love of Ours," "Janie Gets Married," "The Adventures of Don Juan," "Night and Day," "One Man's Secret," "Wallflower" and "Silver Lining."

Chicago Managers Reported Unionized

CHICAGO, Nov. 12.—Eugene Atkinson, business manager of Chicago projectionists, Local 110, will leave for New Orleans next week to discuss a charter for a theatre managers' union at the American Federation of Labor convention, starting Nov. 20. On two previous occasions, James Gorman, president of the local, has told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that the charter has already been secured by the union, but Atkinson has been silent on the matter. It is reported unofficially that the union secured the charter at the IATSE convention in St. Louis, last Summer, but that the action will not be made official until the coming AFL meet.

A number of circuit theatre managers have been in huddles on the union matter, but have awaited further action from Atkinson.

Johnson Heads Union

Lou Johnson has been elected president of the New York Film Exchange Employes Union, Local B-51, IATSE. Others named are: Leonard Brooks, vice president; Gerard Lee, secretary; Harold Marenstein, financial secretary.

Paramount Fetes Danson

Paramount's advertising - publicity department gave a farewell party on Friday to Hal Danson, assistant advertising manager, who left the company to start today at the Kayston-Sbiero Advertising Agency.

WB District Heads Conclude Meeting

Major Albert Warner, vice-president, and Joseph Bernhard, general manager of Warner Theatres, addressed the final day's sessions of the two-day Warner district managers' meeting here at the weekend.

Sessions were addressed by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, who presided, and Charles Einfeld, Mort Blumenstock, Norman H. Moray, Arthur Sachson and other home office sales executives. District managers who returned to their posts over the weekend included Henry Herbel, Los Angeles; Ralph H. Clark, Toronto; Ralph L. McCoy, Atlanta; Harry A. Seed, Chicago; Hall Walsh, St. Louis; Robert Smeltzer, Washington, and Charles Rich, Cleveland.

Harriet Parsons to Produce for RKO

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—Harriet Parsons has resigned from the film news staff of International News Service to devote full time to RKO production. She is currently producing "The Enchanted Cottage," and is preparing "The Prodigal Women" and "Who Could Ask for Anything More?"

Miss Parsons had been with Hearst for 13 years and on the film staff of the *Los Angeles Examiner*.

Appeals AAA Ruling

W. V. Adwell, operator of the Roxy theatre, San Angelo, Tex., who filed a combination clearance, some-run complaint against the five consenting companies, has filed notice of appeal from a decision in the Dallas tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here at the weekend.

Cites U. S. Films as Tonic 'Down Under'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12. — American films have done more than any other single agency to maintain wartime morale 'down under,' Richard V. Keane, Australian minister of trade and customs, stated at an industry luncheon at the Roosevelt Hotel here Friday. Keane controls motion picture import taxes, quotas and censorship and is his country's key official in the eyes of Hollywood.

Y. Frank Freeman presided at the luncheon in place of Joseph M. Schenck, who was suffering from a cold but who left for New York Friday night on the Superchief as scheduled. Others present included Charles W. Koerner, Cliff Work, Edgar J. Mannix, Allen Wilson, Jason Joy and Joseph I. Breen.

Katcher and Morris Join Goldwyn Here

Leo Katcher has been appointed East Coast publicity-advertising representative, and Claud Morris, East Coast exploitation director for Samuel Goldwyn. Katcher had been with Vanguard, directing East Coast publicity.

Morris was formerly with United Artists as director of exploitation in Chicago. Prior to his UA position he had been with M-G-M and was director of advertising for Fox Midwest.

Drops Some-run Charge

M. T. Poovey, operator of the Marsilla Theatre, Rockingham, N. C., has withdrawn his some-run complaint against RKO and Warners, filed in the Charlotte tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reports.

WLB Gets Dance Directors Case

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Inability of producers and the Dance Directors Guild, an independent organization, to get together on a contract resulted Friday in Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins certifying the controversy to the War Labor Board.

The negotiations between the Guild and the studios have been going on for several months and since August the Labor Department's conciliator, L. L. Livingston, has been trying to get the two groups together. There has been no stoppage of work and the negotiations have been conducted in a friendly manner, but Livingston was said to have become convinced of the impossibility of reaching a common meeting ground for the two groups and recommended that the WLB take over the case.

Order Election to End SAG-SPU Dispute

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—The National Labor Relations Board at Washington has ordered an election in the dispute between the Screen Actors Guild and the Screen Players Union to determine the bargaining agent for extras. All extras who have worked 30 days within the past year will be eligible, including those performing stunts, singing, or playing bits or parts involving a line or more of essential story dialogue. Excluded are regular stunt, part and "bit" players and class "A" and class "A" junior members of the guild.

A date for the election has not been set. The extras will choose SAG or no union.

One of the many brilliant production highlights—the Coffee Number—in "Brazil," as Republic captures the festive Pan-American music and dancing in all its true color and splendor. ADVT.

All But 'Soldier' Off in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Nov. 12.—"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" was the top picture in an off week, coming just under the line at Warners' Hippodrome with an expected take of $20,000. "Greenwich Village" held to average in its second week at the Allen and Duke Ellington on the RKO Palace stage with "Crime by Night" on the screen fell below with $20,000. "I Love a Soldier" was the only above-average film.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 8:

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days (including special midnight election show), 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,500).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days (and midnight election show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,100).
"Impatient Years" (Col.)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (35c-55c-65c) 7 days (and midnight election show), 2nd week. Gross: $3,100. (Average: $3,200).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days (and midnight election show), 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Crime by Night" (WB)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Duke Ellington. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,400).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $19,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 5th week (also late election night show). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000).

'Soldier' and 'Sisters' Make a Nice Team

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 12.—"I Love a Soldier" and "Three Little Sisters" at the Indiana is bidding for the lead here this week. "Arsenic and Old Lace" and "The Big Noise" at the Lyric still continue big in a second week at the Lyric.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 7-9:

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,800).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,600).
"Nine Girls" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Stage show. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $5,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week (3rd week in Indianapolis). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,900).

WJZ Film Trailers In Skouras Theatres

The 64 Skouras Theatres in this area will soon show trailers at all performances promoting Blue Network and station WJZ programs. It is estimated that the 100-foot trailers with a running time of one minute and 20 seconds will reach more than 2,000,000 theatre patrons weekly.

Joseph M. Seiferth, WJZ audience promotion manager, is supervising production of the films. The trailers will be shown in Skouras theatres under a three-way tie-up between 20th Century-Fox, Skouras and WJZ whereby 20th-Fox films playing in Skouras houses receive air promotion on WJZ.

Get Fawcett Accounts

McCann-Erickson, Inc., and L. E. McGivena and Co. will handle advertising accounts here of Fawcett Publications.

Reviews

"Strangers in the Night"

(Republic)

AN unusual story idea gives rise to a web of intriguing circumstances which results in a mystery film made to order for the addicts. The action is effectively subdued throughout in favor of an atmosphere of acute suspense, achieved by subordinating the murders and attempted murders to the amazing workings of a diseased or "halitosis" mind.

Helene Thimig dreams up a beautiful daughter and ties her entire life to that illusion. When faced with William Terry, who wants to meet the girl, Miss Thimig tells him her daughter is away. The eerie atmosphere of the house and the peculiar actions of Miss Thimig and her companion, Edith Barrett, give Terry cause to wonder and he takes his suspicions to Virginia Grey, the local doctor. The situation reaches a climax when Miss Barrett is found dead, a victim of poison. Fearing discovery and the exposure of her ruse, Miss Thimig attempts to kill Miss Grey and Terry, and failing in that, confesses the entire scheme, including the murder of her companion, who threatened to reveal the secret.

Anthony Mann handled the screenplay, by Bryant Ford and Paul Gangelin, carefully maintaining suspense throughout. Terry, Miss Grey, Miss Thimig, Anne O'Neal and Miss Barrett all handle their roles competently. Rudolph E. Abel produced.

Running time, 56 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

"The Town Went Wild"

(PRC Pictures)

Hollywood, Nov. 12

THE newly-formed producing unit of Bernard R. Roth, Clarence Greene and Russell Rouse is off to an auspicious start with a comedy of small-town life that is sure to please small-town and city folk alike. Fine performances by a judiciously-selected cast, able direction by Ralph Murphy, and a splendid script by the three producers combine to provide 80 minutes of good entertainment.

The story concerns a feud between two neighbors, heads of families, and their predicament when it is revealed that, due to a mixup at the hospital some 20 years before, each has raised the other's son as his own. Romance, too, heads for "the rocks" at the revelation, for one of the boys, in love with the girl next door, now discovers that she can only be a sister to him. It would not be fair to tell now how these complications are resolved, but resolved they are, in hilarious and satisfactory fashion.

Freddie Bartholomew and James Lydon are the bewildered boys, Edward Everett Horton and Tom Tully their feuding fathers. Jill Browning is sweet and wistful as the girl, and both Minna Gombell and Maude Eburne contribute clear-cut characterizations.

Running time, 80 minutes. "G"*. Release date not set. THALIA BELL

"Vigilantes of Dodge City"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Nov. 12

THE latest of Republic's "Red Ryder" series is cut to the pattern of its predecessors and, like them, stresses action and story values. Wild Bill Elliott, who is rapidly becoming one of the most popular of the cowboy stars, fights for the right with energy and talent. Bobby Blake as "Little Beaver," Alice Fleming as "The Duchess," and Tom London as "Denver," support him with nimble wits, six-guns and a bow and arrow.

This time the Duchess owns a freight line on which the villain casts a covetous eye. A number of holdups fail to induce her to sell. The villain then attempts to frame Red Ryder for the robberies, but the cowboy is not to be trapped. With Little Beaver's aid, he gets the goods on the instigator of the holdups, and sends him to his just reward in a blaze of exploding dynamite.

Wallace Grissell directed. William J. O'Sullivan was the executive producer, and Stephen Auer his associate. The screenplay was by Norman S. Hall and Anthony Coldeway, from an original story by the former.

Running time, 54 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set. T. B.

"Swing Hostess"

(PRC Pictures) *Hollywood, Nov. 12*

THE plot of "Swing Hostess" revolves around two girls, one who sings badly and one who sings well. Unfortunately, the girl who sings badly is given almost as much footage as the other.

When Martha Tilton is at the "mike," all is well, and it is to be regretted that story complications require that she sing one song, "Say It With Love," innumerable times. Cliff Nazarro adds welcome comedy with his double-talk, and Emmett Lynn does an amusing characterization as the landlord of a theatrical boarding-house. Others in the cast are: Irish Adrian, Charles Collins, Harry Holman, Betty Brodel, Claire Rochelle and Paul Porcasi. The original story and screenplay are credited to Louise Rousseau and Gail Davenport, and it's the one about the ambitious young girl who wants to sing with a "name" band. She gets the job in the last reel.

Sigmund Neufeld and Sam Newfield, who work so smoothly together, produced and directed, respectively.

Running time, 76 minutes. "G"*. T. B.

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Laura' Gets $28,000, Increase of $8,000

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 12.—Pre-election interest cut attendance nearly 25 per cent.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 7-9:

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
"The Great Mike" (PRC)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (74c-$1.20) 7 days, 11th week. Gross: $12,400. (Average: $14,500).
"Nine but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $27,000).
"Algiers" (UA)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $25,000).
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
"When Strangers Marry" (Mono.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $28,000).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Shadow of Suspicion" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,748) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,000).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
"Oh, What a Night" (Mono.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000).

Pittsburgh Likes 'Casanova Brown'

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 12.—Pittsburgh's first Wintery weather accounts for low receipts this week with the Stanley well in the lead with a return of $18,500 expected for "Casanova Brown."

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 6-10:

"The Climax" (Univ.)
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,500).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,700).
"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Moveover from the Warner. Gross: $3,500. (Average, $3,000).
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Averave: $3,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $22,000).
"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,350).

'Hairy Ape,' 'Cactus' Gross Big $10,600

OMAHA, Nov. 12.—The Orpheum Theatre, featuring "The Hairy Ape" and "Moonlight and Cactus" again captured the box office top with $10,600. The much smaller Brandeis did nicely with the "Princess and the Pirate," plus "My Pal Wolf." Chilly, wet weather chased away business.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 8-9:

"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,600. (Average: $6,500).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 5 days. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $8,400).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,600. (Average: $9,800).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $11,700).

One Good Reason Out Of Millions Of 'Em Why You Need To Sell More In The Sixth

CAPTAIN RAYMOND W. WILD, A.A.F.,
wearer of the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Purple Heart, the Presidential Unit Citation—now touring with War Activities Committee, Sixth War Loan.

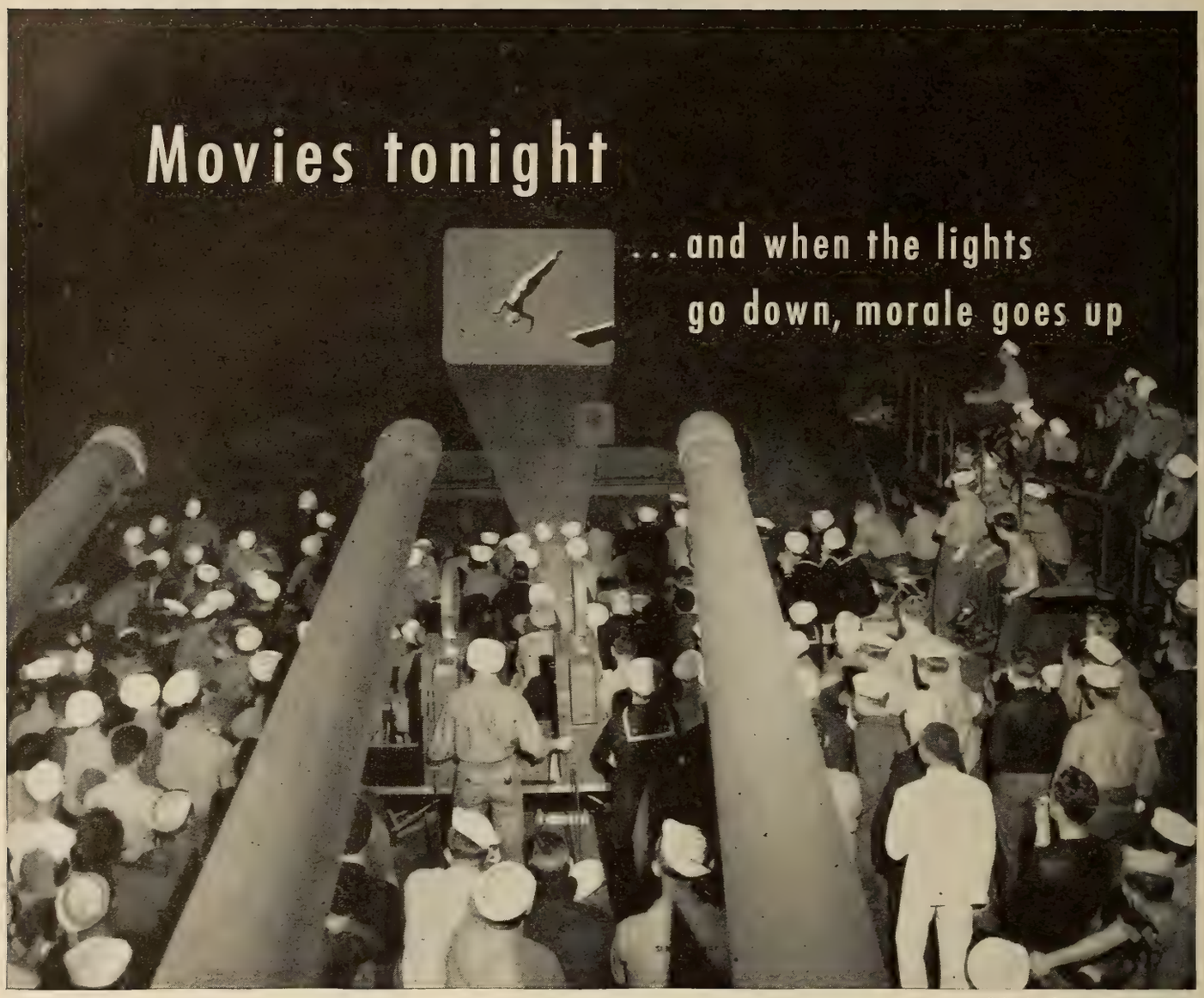
HE'S HAD $4,000,000 WORTH OF WAR BONDS SHOT OUT FROM UNDER HIM

FIGURE IT OUT FOR YOURSELF. A fully equipped Flying Fortress (B-17) costs about a half a million dollars. In his 29 combat missions Ray Wild has had eight of them so badly shot up, he's just managed to bring 'em in on a wing and a prayer. O.K. That's four million bucks' worth of equipment used up by just one of our air heroes. No wonder Ray asks you, Mr. Exhibitor, to get behind the Sixth War Loan Drive and give it the greatest campaign ever. Total war costs money. And War Bonds supply that money—the mighty ammunition of Victory...and a lasting Peace.

MAKE THEM "BUY BONDS AT YOUR MOTION PICTURE THEATRE" in the SIXTH WAR LOAN DRIVE!

6th WAR LOAN

This advertisement is published by this magazine in the interest of the Sixth War Loan campaign and prepared by the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry.



Official U. S. Navy Photograph

WHEN the boys are months and miles from home, a movie's more than a show. It's a window into the life they've left behind. Here are the longed-for city streets; their beloved villages and farms; their ways and their people—their America. "Movies tonight" are a godsend to Service men and women; one of the most deeply appreciated gifts the home folks can send.

The sending, of course, is done by you of "the movies." Hundreds of current features go to fighting craft and fighting men in every theater of the war. There's "home" in every reel. And it would do your heart good to see the boys' eyes light up when word gets around that it's "movies tonight."

Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*
FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 93 — NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1944 — TEN CENTS

Bar German Cartels in U.S. Industry

Recommendation Made By Senate Group

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Postwar Germany would be barred from any interest whatever in the American motion picture industry under a proposal of a Senate military affairs subcommittee for destruction of the German cartel system, by which Nazi industrialists before the war were able through patents to control the supply of many commodities abroad.

Areas of Nazi penetration were found by the Alien Property Custodian after our entry into the war, in motion picture film, photographic apparatus and chemicals, through all of which the American industry was affected.

The subcommittee pointed out that,

(*Continued on page* 5)

Victor, Columbia Begin Recording

The 27 month battle between James C. Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians and RCA Victor and Columbia Record, which prevented those two from making of records since Aug. 1, 1942, came to an end yesterday, after the two record manufacturers capitulated, agreed to Petrillo's terms, and after contracts were signed, resumed the making of recordings.

The victory for Petrillo means that for the first time the entire record industry has accepted the demand to pay directly to the union's headquar-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Offer of D. C. Post Is Denied By Schaefer

Questioned yesterday concerning a story published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 10 which said that George J. Schaefer, chairman of the War Activities Committee, had been proffered a new MPPDA post in Washington, Schaefer said: "No such post has been offered me and I am unaware that it has been discussed."

Schaefer added: "The report may

(*Continued on page* 5)

Davis Giving Month To Deal in Canada

Toronto, Nov. 13.—Although negotiations for J. Arthur Rank's purchase of a half interest in Odeon Theatres of Canada are "proceeding satisfactorily" here, according to John H. Davis, of London, co-managing director of Odeon Theatres in Great Britain, the deal may not be finalized before the end of November, it was indicated here today.

To Preserve Films of War

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Provision of a Government repository for permanent preservation of the still and motion picture records of World War II may come as the outgrowth of a campaign initiated yesterday by the *Washington Post* to prevent pictures of the war from the same fate as those of World War I, a large part of which were lost by deterioration through neglect.

The *Post* yesterday quoted Army and Navy pictorial officers and Government officials as strongly favoring the building of a library for the millions of feet of motion and still pictures of the war which are being made by all the services in all sections of the world.

The pictures of the last war never were brought together in any one place. Many of them were lost shortly after the end of the war and never

(*Continued on page* 5)

Warners Promote J. J. Glynn and Karl G. Macdonald

J. J. Glynn, vice-president and treasurer of Warner Bros. Pictures International Corp., has been designated manager of foreign branch operations, with supervision of the physical activities of all foreign offices of the company.

Karl G. Macdonald, also a vice-president of the foreign unit, has been named assistant to Wolfe Cohen, who has charge of all activities for South America, Australia, New Zealand and the Far East.

"Appointments are designed to achieve better coordination of Warner's expanding foreign activities following the recent promotion of Joseph S. Hummel to complete charge of Continental Europe, Africa, Scandinavia, Palestine and Syria, and the entrance of Wolfe Cohen into the setup," the company said yesterday. Hummel will leave shortly for a tour of his territories.

Reagan Claims 3,127 Deals in One Week

A total of 3,127 independent feature deals was made by the Paramount domestic distribution department in the week ending Friday. This is 123 more than the previous high of 3,004, during the week ended Jan. 30, 1943, according to Charles M. Reagan, executive vice-president in charge of distribution. Reagan claims that the first block for 1944-45 is the fastest selling block since decree selling was inaugurated four years ago.

'Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo'

[*M-G-M*]

Hollywood, Nov. 13

THE producer asserts "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" is the first completely authentic picture of World War II; that there is no fiction in it; that even the names of the characters are real names of the men who participated in the first bombing of Tokyo.

Contemporary historians and other Hollywood producers may fling down the gauntlet, but not so this reviewer. He is content to rest on what he saw, the reactions he registered and to decide here is a show of superior values in its overall terms and of superb values in certain of its stretches.

This, of course, is the story of the famous Doolittle raid, particularized and concentrated in the role played in that raid by Ted W. Lawson, then a lieutenant and now a major. What he and his crew aboard the 'Ruptured Duck' passed through in training, in sacrifice and in heroic deed is widely known to the public by official account and Lawson's book. In detail, all of this is unfolded from the time the then Lieut. Col. James Doolittle called for volunteers, through the secrecy to which his brave band was committed, the preparations at Eglin Field in Florida, the

(*Continued on page* 8)

Arguments in Film Decree Case on Dec. 5

Month's Delay Forced By Schine Hearing

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Argument on the motion of the Department of Justice for extension of the consent decree will be held before Judge Henry W. Goddard in the New York Federal District Court on Dec. 5.

The motion originally was set to be heard Nov. 4, but a month's delay has been granted at the request of the Department because of the necessity for Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General in charge of the motion picture unit, to direct the Government's presentation in the Schine case at Buffalo. A spokes-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Equipment Needed, Seats Secondary

Postwar improvements in theatres will not be as rapid or assume new ideas as rapidly as appears indicative from current industry talk, Bert Sanford of Altec Service's Eastern sales staff told MOTION PICTURE DAILY here yesterday. Sanford has just returned from a cross-country trip gathering information on the future needs of

(*Continued on page* 8)

20,000 at 'Night of Stars' Tonight

The 11th annual "Night of Stars" will be presented this evening at Madison Square Garden, here, before a sold-out house of 20,000, and highlighted by a special message from President Roosevelt which will declare, in part, that the humanitarian purposes of the presentation must "appeal to all whose hearts beat with compassion for the oppressed and the under-privileged." Similar messages will be read from Governor Dewey

(*Continued on page* 5)

Also Reviewed Today

In addition to the review of "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," M-G-M, appearing in adjoining columns, a review of "Strange Affair," Columbia, appears on page 8.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH SCHENCK, executive production head of 20th-Fox, arrived in New York from Hollywood yesterday.

•

H. M. BESSEY, Altec's vice-president and operating manager; H. S. MORRIS, merchandising manager, and STANLEY HAND, advertising manager, have returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

JOSEPH DI LORENZO, RKO division manager in the New York area, is the father of a daughter, ANDREA JANE, born Nov. 10 at the Fifth Ave. hospital.

•

W. J. KUPPER, general sales manager of 20th-Fox, has arrived in Los Angeles to convalesce following a recent attack of pneumonia.

•

SAM KATZMAN, Monogram producer, is due here from the Coast. He will meet with JACK DIETZ, his partner, already in New York.

•

E. J. HUDSON, president of United Detroit Theatres, and JACK KEEGAN, buyer and booker for the circuit, are New York visitors.

•

MOE SILVER, Pittsburgh zone manager for Warner Theatres, and his assistant, HARRY FEINSTEIN, arrived in New York yesterday.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount Western division manager, has returned to New York from a trip through his territory.

•

IRWIN ZELTNER, of 20th-Fox's home office exploitation staff, has returned to New York from Pittsburgh.

•

ROY DISNEY, of Walt Disney Productions, is in New York from the Coast.

•

BILL COLLINS, owner of the Collins Circuit, Atlanta, has returned there from New York.

•

JOHN JENKINS, president of Astor Pictures, Dallas, was in Atlanta enroute to Washington and New York.

•

FRANK HENSLER, M-G-M Kansas City manager, will return there from New York today.

•

WILLIAM DOZIER, RKO producer, arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

•

SID KULICK, PRC Eastern sales manager, left here yesterday to visit Eastern branches.

•

AL TUCHMAN, RKO receptionist for 22 years, celebrated his 75th birthday yesterday.

•

ARTHUR JARRATT, Associated British Pictures circuit executive, is in New York from London.

•

TED O'SHEA, M-G-M Eastern sales head, will return today from Albany.

Rodgers Will List MGM's Block No. 10

CINCINNATI, Nov. 13.—Announcement of M-G-M's next block, No. 10, will be made by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, at the four-day Midseason meeting here of the company's division and district managers, starting Thursday. The sessions will be attended by 27 home office and field executives.

Indications are that the five pictures scheduled for trade showing this month will be included in the next group. "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" will be screened in all offices Nov. 13 with the exception of Philadelphia, which will show it Nov. 16, and St. Louis, which has set Nov. 18. "The Thin Man Goes Home" will be shown in all exchange areas Nov. 21. "Blonde Fever" is set for Nov. 21, except in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Boston, where it will be shown on Nov. 22. "Main Street After Dark" is due on Nov. 27 in all offices. "Nothing But Trouble" will be shown in all exchanges on Nov. 27, except in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Boston, where it is slated for screenings Nov. 28.

Executives Expected

Home office executives expected to attend the meeting include: John E. Flynn and E. K. O'Shea, division managers; Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of advertising-exploitation; Eddie Aaron, circuit sales head; Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations and Harold Postman, his assistant; H. M. Richey, director of exhibitor relations; Walter Brooks, his assistant; Ben McIntiker, home office counsel.

Gen. Blamey Praises Industry for Films

American distributors have supplied free to the Australian Army some 211,872,771 feet of film, comprising 19,104 programs, since 1939, F. McNeill Ackland, chairman of the board of the Motion Picture Distributors Association of Australia, here from Australia, declared in an interview yesterday. In addition, they have distributed a weekly supply of pre-release programs in New Guinea, he said. Ackland is here to personally convey the gratitude of General Sir Thomas Blamey, commander of the Australian Army, for the work performed by the industry for Australian military personnel in making available these gift films. Similar thanks have been sent by U. S. Army Special Services.

The companies have also cooperated with the Australian Department of Information in making available 300 prints to 1,500 theatres to aid the War Loan drive in that country and made four short subjects to aid the drive.

The outlook is excellent for U. S. films in Australia after the war, Ackland said. The public there has turned increasingly to films for its entertainment. Ackland will remain here until the end of the month and will spend several weeks in Hollywood.

Doris LeRoy to Set Commercial Films

Large American corporations are currently being sounded out on the possibilities of having films made for them which could be shown to millions of people in the United States and Central and South America today through non-theatrical distribution and to television audiences in the post-war in the present activities of Cine-Television Studios headed by Fred H. Fidler, formerly with the motion picture department of J. Walter Thompson. Doris Warner LeRoy, daughter of H. M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., is associated with the project.

With Motion Picture Networks, one of the organizations under the Cine-Television set-up, Mrs. LeRoy is currently trying to sell large commercial organizations on the idea of doing institutional advertising with films in an overall program through non-theatrical outlets.

War Plant Audience

One of the outlets in the U. S. for the films, which would be made either here or in Hollywood with an eye to entertainment values rather than straight institutional promotions, would be to the 8,500,000 persons per month who now see the Army's Industrial Services Division's incentive films in war plants. Another would be to those who see the Office of War Information's films; also, possibly, the 6,000,000 a month who see films of the Coordinator of Inter-American affairs in Central and South America.

Circulation is also being offered in some 25,000 women's clubs, 30,000 churches, and some 10,000 schools equipped for sound.

"Minute Movies," another branch of Cine-Television has already made a series of four one-minute trailers for NBC as part of the network's "Parade of Stars." These are currently being shown in over 800 theatres.

More Service Help Gets Wage Boosts

The Regional War Labor Board in Cleveland has approved a 10 per cent retroactive wage increase for shippers, inspectors and poster clerks in Cleveland exchanges.

Applications for similar increases have been filed or are in the process of being prepared for these employes in all exchanges. The WLB previously approved increases for the employes in Seattle, Boston and New Haven exchanges. Company exchange operational heads and representatives of the IATSE will meet here today to set more applications for filing with the regional WLBs.

Dave Halper, IATSE attorney and Ernest Mahler of O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery, representing United Artists, have returned from Chicago and Cleveland where they sought to expedite the approval by the WLB of a system of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales and a minimum 10 per cent wage increase for exchange office employes.

Injunction Denied Against Majors

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 13.—Federal Judge F. P. Schoonmaker has denied an application by the Penn Theatre at Ambridge for a temporary injunction, preceding trial, to restraian distributor-producers from refusing the Penn first run pictures, on grounds that a contract was not renewed.

Compton Leaves UA, Harkins Succeeds

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13. — Walter Compton has resigned as United Artists Hollywood publicity director, effective Friday, Nov. 17. He will establish his own office on Jan. 3. John Harkins will succeed him at UA.

WE Anniversary Film

"Heritage for Victory," produced by Western Electric in commemoration of the company's 75th anniversary, will be screened at a press preview Thursday afternoon, at the Monte Carlo Casino Room. Beginning Friday the film will be shown to 100,000 employes throughout the country.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
SUPER-SHOCK SENSATION!
"THE MASTER RACE"
George COULOURIS Stanley RIDGES
Osa MASSEN Carl ESMOND

Paramount presents
PAULETTE GODDARD SONNY TUFTS
in
"I LOVE A SOLDIER"
In Person
TONY PASTOR
and his Band
BERT WHEELER
MARION HUTTON
HAL LEROY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
First N. Y. Showing!
'SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU'
JON HALL
LOUISE ALLBRITTON
IN PERSON
JAMES BARTON
3 SUNS

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VIVIAN BLAINE AND DOZENS OF LOVELIES...

(She's The Cherry Blonde)

Something in technicolor For The Boys

...something for the millions who want dance-dazzling, tune-torrid entertainment, the kind that comes from...

20th CENTURY-FOX

CARMEN MIRANDA · MICHAEL O'SHEA · VIVIAN BLAINE (The Cherry Blonde) in "SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS" with Phil Silvers · Sheila Ryan · Perry Como · Glenn Langan

Directed by LEWIS SEILER · Produced by IRVING STARR in Technicolor · Screen Play by Robert Ellis, Helen Logan and Frank Gabrielson · Based on the Musical Comedy Book by Herbert and Dorothy Fields · Cole Porter

Asks Theatres to Stay Open V-E Day

ELDORA, Ia., Nov. 13.—Small town theatres should not close on 'V-E Day,' Leo F. Wolcott, president of Iowa and Nebraska Theatre Owners, declares in a current organizational bulletin.

"The best thoughts which have been expressed on the subject," Wolcott writes, "insist that the day should be one of quiet thanksgiving, not a wild orgy. People are generally quieter in the theatre than any other place. I think we should have police help handy to quell any disturbance and we should train our employes along this line, but I feel we should stay open to accommodate our people. Let the slogan be: 'Don't cheer while our boys are still dying on other battle fronts.'"

Taking note of the recent release by the Treasury Department of salary reports of industry executives and the Treasury's observation that admission taxes here are less than in England, the bulletin asserts: "The need for a closely knit organization of all branches of this industry against unfair taxation was never greater than at this moment."

To Preserve Films Of World War II

(*Continued from page* 1)

recovered; others were kept at various places by the services which had made them, but the film deteriorated rapidly and unable to secure money for their protection, the Army some years ago accepted a substantial contribution from the motion picture industry for preservation of what was left of its film library.

It was pointed out that the pictures which have been and are now being made will be "of tremendous historical value throughout the years to come," available to motion picture producers, historians, students, press and others, and that plans for early post-war construction of a repository should not be delayed.

The movement was given the support of Elmer Davis, head of the Office of War Information, who said that the OWI will take action when the time comes to turn over the films and pictures in its custody to whatever agency may be designated as a permanent repository.

The only handicap to the plan appears to be the insistency of military officials that each service should have a representative on the governing body of the proposed library to safeguard its interests, but it is believed that if the necessary legislation is introduced in Congress this point could be resolved satisfactorily.

Duvivier Sues Bronston

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13.—Julien Duvivier has filed suit against Samuel Bronston, asking $395,000 damages for failure to produce two films for which, the complainant said, Bronston was to pay him $200,000.

Mono. Completes 20

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13.—Monogram has completed 20 productions for 1944-45, according to the studio. This represents more than 41 per cent of 48 films scheduled.

Bond Aid Pledged by 450 New Englanders In Boston

BOSTON, Nov. 13.—A record breaking 450 exhibitors, distributors, and War Finance leaders from Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island, met with the industry's national committee for the Sixth War Loan at the Hotel Statler and pledged cooperation to make the drive the biggest in New England history.

The program opened with a tribute to veterans of both World War I and II. The ceremonies were climaxed by a special salute to 'Movies at War' during which tribute was paid members of the national committee. All branches of the fighting services participated in this salute to the industry.

The business meeting was opened by Sam Pinanski, state exhibitor chairman, who presented the aims of the Massachusetts group in the Sixth War Loan. He called upon regional chairmen for their campaign reports. Pinanski then turned the meeting over to the national committee, headed by Harry Brandt. Talks were delivered by Jack Kirsch, co-chairman; Capt. Raymond W. Wild, and Lt. Louis Largey, war heroes; Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman; Nathan Yamins, co-chairman; Gov. Leverett Saltonstall; Mayor Maurice J. Tobin; Theodore R. Gamble, national director, War Finance Division; F. Winchester Denio, Massachusetts War Finance Committee chairman, and John Hertz, Jr., national drive publicity director.

A special testimonial pledge bearing the signatures of all present was presented to the national chairman by Pinanski.

Schwerin and Norman On Drive Assignment

Ruth Schwerin and Fred Norman have been added to the publicity staff of the Sixth War Loan, Harry Mandel, WAC publicity director in the New York area, reports.

They will assist John A. Cassidy, press liaison. Norman will handle radio station contacts.

Set 'Convoy' Ceremonies At Meeting Here Today

Members of the industry's Sixth War Loan 'Convoy Committee' met yesterday in the Hotel Piccadilly with representatives of the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Red Cross and the Treasury, and set final arrangements for ceremonies attending the opening of the Sixth War Loan Drive in Times Square on Friday.

Com. Thomas W. Dewart, public relations officer of the Third Naval District; Comm. Walton Butterfield, Coast Guard; Wave Lieutenant Martha Donaldson; Major D. C. Weaver, Army; Capt. Chas. B. Sully of the Red Cross and Robert Halley represented the Government agencies.

Harry Mandel, local drive publicity director, and Edward C. Dowden, special events chairman, outlined the program to committeemen and publicists John A. Cassidy, Al Zimbalist, Edgar Goth, Al Naroff, Paul Sherman, Mike Siegel, Paul Binstock, Ira Morais, Ray Malone, William V. Stechman, Harry Sonenberg, Vincent Liguori, Teddy Trust, Jay Burton, William Slatar, Arthur Price, Jerry Sager and Sam Coolick.

Pledge $70,000 and Running 'Free' Day

CLEVELAND, Nov. 13.—Independent Cuyhoga country exhibitors today pledged $70,000 in 'E' and 'G' bonds and tax certificates at a bond drive meeting sponsored by the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association. Members also pledged to run all bond trailers and to participate in the national 'Free Movie' day.

Speakers included Meyer Fine, WAC exhibitor chairman for Northern Ohio; Morrison Orr, distributor chairman, and Charles Raymond, state exhibitor bond chairman.

60,000 Broadsides On 'Musts' of 6th

As a reminder of the four 'musts' for the Sixth War Loan drive, John Hertz, Jr., national publicity director, has arranged to have 60,000 printed broadsides slip-sheeted in all company press sheets; 30,000 copies of the one-page, two-color job, which urges exhibitors to arrange Bond premieres, Children's Matinees, National Free Movie shows and to become issuing agents, have already been turned over to National Screen Service to be inserted into press sheets of all companies handled by it.

In addition, 7,500 copies of the sheets have been distributed to 20th-Fox, Columbia, United Artists and Warners.

Bar German Cartels In U. S. Industry

(*Continued from page* 1)

following the end of the last war, defeated Germany was enabled to stage the comeback which paved the way for the current war through the stranglehold then secured upon many industries by its cartel system, and declared that Germany's industrial system must be reorganized so as to eliminate its aggressive power if the peace is to be preserved.

The report urged that all German property in the United Nations and liberated countries should be confiscated, that enemy property in this country be sold and the proceeds devoted to the cost of the war, and that enemy-originated patents be retained by the Government and made available to all American industry.

20,000 at 'Night of Stars' Tonight

(*Continued from page* 1)

and Mayor La Guardia at the show, proceeds of which will go to the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine.

Approximately 500 entertainers from all branches of the show world will appear tonight with La Guardia opening the proceedings. The producing committee, consisting of 62 theatrical executives, is headed by Robert M. Weitman, manager of the Paramount Theatre. Co-chairmen are Ed Sullivan and Louis K. Sidney. Honorary chairmen in the women's division include Mrs. Leo Spitz, Mrs. Eddie Cantor, Mrs. L. B. Mayer and Mrs. Spyros Skouras. Guests of the committee will be 2,000 service men and women.

Rank Planning for Children's Films

Mary Field, director of J. Arthur Rank's children's film department, plans to reach a production output of a two-hour progam of entertainment films weekly for children within five years, she stated in an interview here yesterday at the offices of Eagle-Lion Films. Miss Field is here on a short trip from London to make a survey of the non-theatrical field in this country.

Foreseeing a development of non-theatrical films after the war, Miss Field said that both the U. S. and Great Britain will collaborate in this field. At present, both Rank's Gaumont British and Odeon circuits are conducting Saturday morning film clubs for children and drawing capacity audiences, Miss Field said. Theatres used are only paid expenses for use of the house, etc., and money left over is turned back into production of films for children. Since only a nominal fee is paid for membership in the clubs, Rank pays the bill for most of the production costs. More than 300,000 are estimated to attend the Saturday filmings, according to Miss Field.

Miss Field is also arranging for production of these children's entertainment films in other countries, and has contracted for Sweden to make several for her, and plans others in Norway, Canada and the U. S. Many British companies are producing the films for Rank, along with regular theatrical productions.

Argue Film Decree Case December 5

(*Continued from page* 1)

man for the Department said here today that the new date is satisfactory and no further continuance will be sought.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that some time must elapse before the court at Buffalo can render a decision in the Schine case and if that suit goes to the Supreme Court, as is quite probable, it is highly unlikely that a final opinion can be secured this year. It was explained that, while the taking of evidence was completed last week, the Government has until Dec. 15 in which to file briefs. The defendants have 30 days in which to file answers, and the Government then has 15 days for its reply, making it unlikely that any decision will be possible before late in February. Some time would then be required to get the case before the Supreme Court and to get in the petitioner's and respondent's briefs; and, since the court recesses early in June, it is probable that the case, if accepted for review, would have to go over to the 1945-46 term.

Offer of D. C. Post Is Denied by Schaefer

(*Continued from page* 1)

have arisen from the fact that I have agreed to devote a part of my time as chairman of the War Activities Committee to work in Washington in connection with the industry's current raw stock problem."

Efforts to reach Schaefer and Will H. Hays, MPPDA president, for comment prior to publication of the story were unsuccessful due to the absence from New York of both.

TO LOVE HIM... MEANT DEATH!
PRC PICTURES presents
JOHN CARRADINE

BLUEBEARD

PRC

I SEARCH FOR Beauty
HIDDEN IN A WOMAN'S
SOUL . . . IN MY ARMS
MANY WERE BEAUTIFUL
. . . BUT THE FLAME OF
Passion EXPOSED THEIR
SOUL'S UGLINESS . . .
Ugliness I DESTROY!
Jean PARKER · Nils ASTHER
Ludwig STOSSEL
Produced by LEON FROMKESS
Associate Producer MARTIN MOONEY
Directed by EDGAR G. ULMER
Screenplay by Pierre Gendron
Original Story by Arnold Phillips and
Werner H. Furst

Victor, Columbia Begin Recording

(Continued from page 1)

ters, a fee on each record it produces. Petrillo estimated that the union would realize $4,000,000 annually from a quarter-cent per record on those selling for 35 cents to two cents a record on $2 recordings. Musicians actually playing for the disks do not receive any increased pay.

Victor issued a statement saying that "In view of Petrillo's decision not to accept the order of the Wa Labor Board and the request of the President to obey the WLB order, we had no alternate but to meet his demands that we make direct pay ments to the union's treasury or to abandon our record business which would have resulted in losses to the public, our employees and artists, our dealers and stockholders."

35th Nat'l Board Meeting Thursday

The National Board of Review will hold its 35th anniversary conference on Thursday, in New York. The morning session will hear talks by educators on special fields for the motion picture, and reports by presidents of Motion Picture Councils of Cleveland, Detroit, District of Columbia, Charlotte, Jacksonville, Worcester, Philadelphia, and other communities. This session will be at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

In the afternoon the delegates will be the guests of M-G-M, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners at special screenings with the board's review committee. The Young Reviewers will meet at a post-conference screening of a Universal picture on Friday.

ATS Sets Thursday For Symposium

The American Television Society on Thursday will hold a symposium of leaders in various branches of television, to discuss "30,000,000 Television Sets—When and Where?," according to David Hale Halpern, chairman of the ATS program committee. Ernest H. Vogel, vice president of Farnsworth Radio and Television, Fort Wayne, Ind., will be the principal speaker. D. W. May, New York and New Jersey distributor for Farnsworth, will be chairman.

Dan D. Halpin, president of ATS, will preside at the meeting, to be held in the Museum of Modern Art auditorium.

Dunne, Vidor Guests

G. S. Eysell, managing director of Radio City Music Hall, entertained Irene Dunne and Charles Vidor, star and director of Columbia's "Together Again" yesterday at the theatre. Others who attended were Jack Cohn, Nate Spingold, Abe Montague and Frank Rosenberg, of Columbia, and Fred Lynch of the Music Hall.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

'Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo'

(Continued from page 1)

departure on the *U. S. S. Hornet,* the miscalculation which advanced the raid from night to day, the flight over perilous waters to the Japanese mainland, the successful destruction of the targets, the escape through that terrible storm to the China coast, the crash into the sea, the rescue by friendly Chinese, their ministrations under the very nose of the Japanese, the final flight to safe Chungking, Lawson's return to the States, minus a leg, and reunion with his wife.

THE drama unfolds naturally. In its human relations—Lawson and his wife, Lawson and his men and comrades, their growing respect for their courageous Chinese benefactors and the emphasis on the quiet dignity of that race—the film is a sound job from the script by Dalton Trumbo up through the bonded direction of Mervyn LeRoy.

But it is in its documentary flavor that "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" reveals its great strength. There is excitement and drama in the airfield sequences, tenseness in the fight to San Francisco where the flattop *Hornet* awaits. The takeoff from the heaving deck of the monster aircraft carrier—the camera heads into the full length of the deck and the tossing waters beyond—is as thrilling a sequence as imagination perhaps allows. So effective is it that audiences, like this reviewer and those around him, involuntarily will be propelling themselves forward like the straining aviators themselves as they seek to furnish their groaning motors that final urge which sends their ships aloft. Then comes the low level dash over the ocean to the enemy coast, the successful mission over Tokyo, the getaway to the mainland and the crash. The tension ties the emotions into a tight bundle; it sets apart this portion of the film from all others of its type.

The sentimentalities of the story, however, are on the cloying side and so, too, is the impression of Phyllis Thaxter, a newcomer, who plays Lawson's wife. Perhaps the best parallel to draw is one which points out that, when "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" is in the air, it is realistic and stark and of magnificent courage; that, when it is ground-bound, it is Hollywood.

NEVERTHELESS, this is a fine film and an attraction of unquestioned box-office importance. It has Van Johnson as Lawson, Spencer Tracy in the decidedly subordinated role of Doolittle, and Robert Walker, Tim Murdock, Don De Fore and Gordon McDonald as Lawson's mates. They are all first rate in the varying demands of their respective roles. Similarly is it the case with a long supporting cast which includes Robert Mitchum, Scott McKay, John R. Reilly, Horace McNally, Leon Ames, Robert Bice, Alan Napier and Selena Royle.

Sam Zimbalist produced, and produced very well indeed.

Running tune, 100 minutes. "G."* Release date not set. RED KANN.

"Strange Affair"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Nov. 13

ALLYN JOSLYN, Evelyn Keyes, Marguerite Chapman and Edgar Buchanan head the cast of this comedy-melodrama which is acceptable. Alfred E. Green's direction calls for plenty of movement. Burt Kelly produced.

The screenplay, by Oscar Saul, Eve Greene and Jerome Odlum, based on an original by Saul, is a complicated puzzle somewhat lacking in emotional value. A cartoonist, whose hobby is sleuthing, undertakes to solve the puzzle. His wife alternately aids and impedes his efforts, and there is some comedy of the slapstick school thrown in for good measure. A note of timeliness is added by the fact that the head of the murder ring is eventually exposed as an enemy agent.

Nina Foch, Hugo Haas, Shemp Howard and Frank Jenks are also in the cast.

Running time, 78 minutes. "G"*.

THALIA BELL

"G" denotes general classification.

RKO to Show Five Between Dec. 5-7

RKO will hold national trade screenings of five films on Dec. 5, 6 and 7.

The pictures are: "Experiment Perilous," "Farewell My Lovely," "Girl Rush," "Nevada," and "The Falcon in Hollywood."

'Singing' Tribute

"The Influence of Motion Pictures on Music Education" will be the theme of the Fall meeting of the In-And-About Music Educators Group of New York on Dec. 2. The group will pay tribute to the Jerome Kern-E. Y. Harburg musical score from Universal's "Can't Help Singing." The meeting will be held in the Hotel Plaza.

MGM Office Managers Will Visit Here

M-G-M, starting Nov. 27, will bring its branch office managers to New York to acquaint them with the workings of the home office. The first group, arriving on Nov. 27, will be A. John Mayer, Pittsburgh; Ben S. MacLeod, Indianapolis, and Edward Susse, Albany.

M-G-M branch and district managers have just finished a tour of the home offices on the same basis.

MGM Hosts Leaders

M-G-M was host here yesterday to 70 leaders of Russian, Polish, Yugoslav, Croatian, Serbian and Slovenian organizations in the U. S. at a special screening of "An American Romance."

Equipment Needed, Seats Secondary

(Continued from page 1)

theatres. He stated that in his opinion exhibitors need mechanical equipment more than anything else and seats as a secondary necessity. Improvements must be made in equipment to replace older and worn parts now in service.

While in Hollywood Sanford observed that "producers are making better pictures now than ever before. We are advising exhibitors to bring the standard of their equipment up to that of the studios in Hollywood, where constant improvements are being made in the quality of production, cameras and sound." He pointed out that further experiments with sound as used, for example, by Disney in "Fantasia," were halted by the war, but that the studios are familiar with the routine of multiple tracks and that after the war the companies will get together and decide upon a standardized sound so that one company will not be using two tracks against some other company's four.

Much pre-war manufactured equipment will be sold at the end of the war and much in the way of cut-backs will also be used, Sanford said. The sale of equipment to Europe will be large, but any estimate between $5,000,000 to $50,000,000 of its value might be correct.

Clearance Award Is Overruled on Appeal

The Arbitration Appeal Board has reversed the decision of the Cincinnati tribunal, which dismissed the clearance complaint by Richard Ernst Realty Co., operating the Liberty, Madison and Broadway theatres, Covington, Ky., against Loew's, 20th Century-Fox and RKO, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday, and has reduced clearance of the Family and Shirley theatres over the Liberty and Madison to ten days, and over the Kentucky to 14 days.

Previous clearance which obtained for the Family and Shirley, operated by Nicholas G. Shafer, was 23 days over complainant's theatres and over the Kentucky, operated by Louis Wiethe, an intervenor.

Wall's Son Killed

Ed. J. Wall, Paramount district advertising representative in Albany and Buffalo, has been notified of the death of his son, Sgt. Edward Wall in France on Oct. 26. Sgt. Wall was a member of the First Special Service Force, also called the Rangers. Besides his parents, he leaves a brother, Tom, and a sister, Patricia.

Houston, Actor, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13. — George Houston, 48, film actor and former opera singer, died here last night following a heart attack. His widow, Virginia Cord, survives.

Bonded Film Storage Corp.
LOWEST RATES
TWICE A DAY DELIVERY SERVICE
SAFETY-SECURITY
1600 BROADWAY N.Y.C.
Circle 6-0081-2-3-4
STORAGE R. C. A. PROJECTION ROOM FILM EXCHANGE DISTRIBUTION SERVICE

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 13

JUNE ALLYSON, M-G-M player elected to stardom by exhibitors in *Motion Picture Herald's* 'Stars of Tomorrow' poll, has been proclaimed the 'outstanding new screen personality of 1944' in a reader poll conducted by *Movie Stars Parade*. . . . Edmund Gwenn is to play the male lead in M-G-M's "Alter Ego," a psychiatrical melodrama derived from an Arch Oboler radio play and which Oboler will direct. . . . Herbert Kline, who directed W. R. Frank's "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog," is to produce the Lewis E. Browne novel, "See What I Mean," for an undisclosed studio.

•

Columbia has cast Lupita Tovar opposite Warner Baxter in the studio's next "Crime Doctor" film, not yet titled. . . . Claire Trevor will be co-starred with George Raft and Signe Hasso in RKO's "Johnny Angel," a modern pirate story. . . . Grace McDonald has been given the feminine lead in Universal's "Romance, Inc.," a musical with Allan Jones in the principal male role.

•

Jane Frazee is to star in "Rockin' the Rockies," a Columbia musical and her third for that studio. . . . Beulah Bondi has been assigned a principal role in RKO's John Wayne vehicle, "The Invisible Army." . . . Ben Pivar, Universal production executive, whose schedule was recently cleared of all low-budget pictures, has been given a special assignment to develop a new set of scare-characters for the studio where Frankenstein, the Wolf Man and their kin have made melodramatic history. His first creation is to be known as The Creeper and is to make its debut in a million-dollar film called "The House of Horrors."

•

Joan Davis will star in RKO's next musical "George White's Scandals of 1945." Felix Feist will direct. . . . Producer Sam Marx has set John Carroll and Jan Clayton for roles in "New Horizons" at M-G-M. . . . Charles Lamont will direct "That's the Spirit" for Universal. Peggy Ryan and Jack Oakie are set for the leads. . . . Manny Wolfe, former story editor at Paramount, will head the newly-organized story and writing department at RKO, under the executive supervision of William Dozier.

•

Vincente Minnelli's next assignment for M-G-M will be "Yolanda and the Thief," which stars Fred Astaire . . . Michael Curtiz will direct "Will Rogers" for Warners. . . . International Pictures has announced that Gary Cooper's initial production for the company will be released under the title "Along Came Jones". . . . William Goetz has signed Sonja Henie to a long-term contract and bought "The Countess of Monte Cristo," a comedy which International will produce in color as a starring vehicle for her.

Get Theatre Account

Weiss & Geller, New York, has been appointed to handle advertising for St. Cloud Amusement Corp., circuit operator.

'Laura's' $17,000 Is Lovely in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Nov. 13.—Theatre traffic is moving mainly toward RKO's Albee, where "Laura" is on its way to $17,000, a plus-average figure of $3,500. "Abroad with Two Yanks" is marching toward an estimated $9,000 on a nine-day run at RKO's Grand.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 14-18:

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 3rd week, following initial week at the Albee and a moveover to the Capitol. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000).

"The Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
"I Met a Murderer" (Imperial)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $2,600. (Average: $2,400).

"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 9 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $9,000. (Average for 7 days: $6,500).

"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).

"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.)
"My Pal, Wolf" (RKO)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO-Goldwyn)
RKO PALACE—(2,700)—(44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,500).

"The Climax" (Univ.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $5,000).

Boston Business 'way Up and Down

BOSTON, Nov. 13.—Business was still spotty this week. "Conspirators" is doing well at the Metropolitan. However, "Marriage Is a Private Affair doesn't exceed expectations at the Orpheum.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 12:

"Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
BOSTON—(3,200) (50c-$1.10) Stage show. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $24,000).

"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
"Great Moment" (Para.)
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-74c) Gross: $6,700. (Average: $6,000).

"Bernadette" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(1,500) ($1.10) 27th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $9,000).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-75c) Gross: $10,000. (Average: $16,000)

"Conspirators" (WB)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (40c-74c) Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000.)

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,900) (35c-74c) Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000).

"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
"Great Moment" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(1,700) (40c-74c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000).

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
STATE—(3,200) (35c-75c) Gross: $11,000. (Average: $19,000).

"Stranger in the Night" (Rep.)
"Thief Meets Thief" (British)
TRANSLUX—(900) (30c-74c) Gross: $6,000. (Average, $6,000).

Mexican NMPTEA Meet

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 13.—The National Motion Picture Theatre Empresarios Association of Mexico will hold its annual convention here Nov. 16-19. Matters to be discussed include labor problems, taxes, theatre and financing, distribution, booking and social insurance.

EAT A JAP FOR BREAKFAST!

★

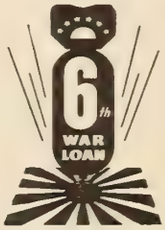
THE TIME:

FRIDAY MORNING NOV. 17 at 9 o'clock! (sharp!)

★

THE PLACE:

HOTEL ASTOR
MAIN BALLROOM



IT'S THE GREAT

SHOWMEN'S BREAKFAST MEETING

Everybody will be there!
And right after breakfast—

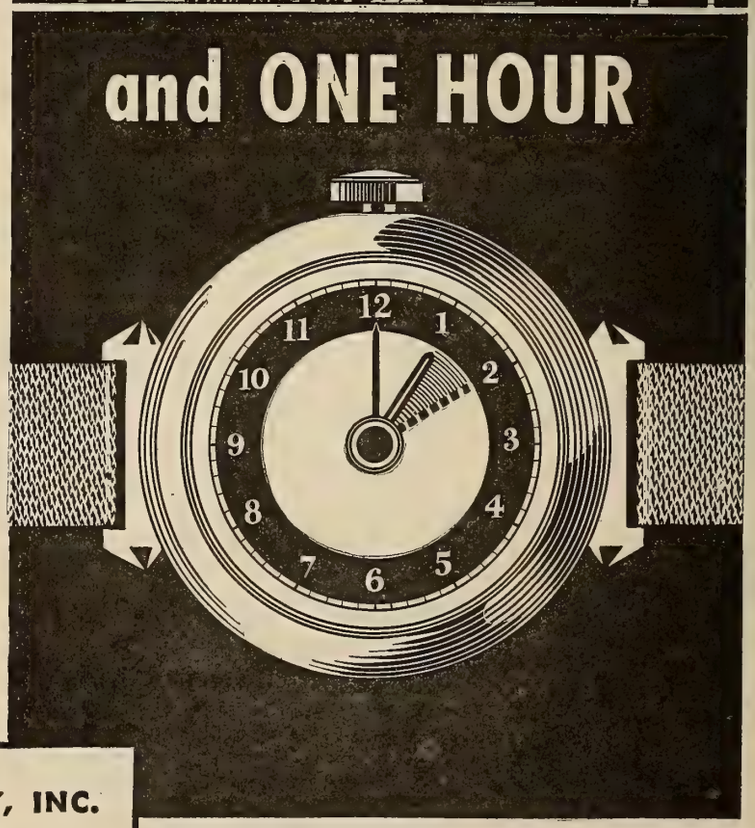
STIRRING RALLY IN TIMES SQUARE

Every showman will participate!

★

SMASH 'EM IN THE 6TH!
WITH SOCK SHOWMANSHIP!

WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE, MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY • NEW YORK AREA



In one hour of firing, one 75 millimeter field gun expends 7,250 pounds of copper . . . copper that is still high on America's critical shortage list of essential war materials!

That's how important it is to continue saving the copper that drops from your projector carbons to the bottom of your lamp housings. And the copper that you strip from stubs.

Salvaged copper turned in to your distributor or local salvage headquarters quickly finds its way into essential products for war... to keep such weapons as this gun firing.

Your Government asks you to continue saving copper. You'll save still more by reading our bulletin on the most efficient operation of Victory High Intensity Carbons . . . "National," "Suprex" and "Orotip." If you have not received your copy, write today to National Carbon Company, Inc., 30 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y., Dept. 9K.

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Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation

UCC

General Offices: 30 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.
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KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE INFANTRY... THE DOUGHBOY DOES IT!

The registered trade-marks "National," "Suprex," and "Orotip" distinguish products of National Carbon Company, Inc.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 94 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1944 TEN CENTS

Dembow and Golden Set 3 at 3 Million

Stories Ready, Financing Will Be Private

Sam Dembow, Jr., Edward A. Golden and Robert Golden, Edward's son, are forming Golden Productions, Inc., to produce three pictures every two years, with a budget estimated at about $3,000,000 for the three, Edward A. Golden told MOTION PICTURE DAILY here yesterday. Dembow will be president, Golden chairman of the board and Robert Golden vice-president.

Edward A. Golden

Dembow, who recently resigned from Para-

(Continued on page 7)

Sixth Drive Is Ahead of 5th

BALTIMORE, Nov. 14.—The Sixth War Loan drive will have more exhibitor participation in special events than any preceding campaign, national industry chairman Harry Brandt indicated here tonight. "Up to now," he told delegates at a regional-key-city bond meeting in the Belvedere Hotel, "pledges on Bond Premieres, Children's Matinees and Free Movie Days exceed the number secured heretofore, and there is a similar increase

(Continued on page 8)

WB Starts Business In France and Italy

Warner offices in France and Italy have been reopened and are resuming operations, it was disclosed here yesterday by Joseph S. Hummel, vice-president of Warners' International Corp. in charge of Continental Europe and the Near East.

Theophile Bellini, manager in Paris, has reported to Hummel that the company's branch in that city suffered only slight physical damage from the German occupation, and that Warner

(Continued on page 8)

Whitaker New V-P of RKO

John M. Whitaker was elected a vice-president of RKO, and Harry Durning a director of the company, at a meeting of the board of directors yesterday, it was announced here by N. Peter Rathvon, president.

Whitaker will have administrative duties, supervise certain special work and act as assistant to president Rathvon. He resigned as a director upon entering the management. Whitaker was associated with the Atlas Corp. for a number of years, and after the outbreak of the war he served as special assistant to Leon Henderson in the Office of Price Administration and subsequently with Floyd B. Odlum in the OPM, predecessor of the War Production Board.

Durning is Collector of the Port of New York.

Franchise Transfer To Be Tested Dec. 6

Suit of Leader Theatre Corp., operating the Leader, Brooklyn, against 20th Century-Fox and Randforce Amusement Corp., in which the legitimacy of the transfer of a film franchise from one theatre to another will will be tested, will go to trial in New York Supreme Court on Dec. 6.

Leopold Storch, owner of the Leader, purchased the theatre from Randforce in July, 1944, when the house was operated under a 20th-Fox franchise. It is alleged the franchise was transferred to another Randforce house and that the plaintiff cannot secure 20th-Fox product.

Grosses Improve In Post-election

Field correspondents' reports received by *Motion Picture Daily* here yesterday and last night disclosed a post-election box-office upturn of strong proportions in many areas.

Typical were post-election upswings of varying degree, especially at first-runs, in Baltimore, Chicago, New York, Cleveland, Providence, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Boston, Kansas City, and elsewhere.

Holdovers Firm at N. Y. First-runs; 'Irish Eyes' Heavy

Business at Broadway first-runs settled down to comfortable margins, generally, as a post-election box office upsweep aided the holdovers predominating to remain firm, and new arrivals registered excellently. Of the latter, "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," combined with a stage show featuring Ray Bolger and Gracie Barrie, did standout business at the Roxy, grossing an estimated $101,000.

Radio City Music Hall sparkled among the holdovers, with "Mrs. Parkington" and its "American Rhapsody" stage show expected to bring a fine $120,000 on the fifth week, ending tonight, close to the previous week's $122,000. "Lost in a Harem"

(Continued on page 7)

Studios Fear New Demands Like Petrillo's

Cite Earlier Efforts of I. A. and Cartoonists

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—James Caesar Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians' victory over RCA and Columbia Broadcasting recording companies as a result of the latter two's capitulation to AFM demands for a royalty on each record sold, is regarded here as establishing a precedental pattern by which other unions may seek to impose a continuing levy on the product of workers' services.

It is recalled that the IATSE at the negotiation of studio union contracts at the New York office of Pat Casey, producers' labor representative, last March, asked for a payment by producers to the International of five per cent of the payroll of "IA" studio employes. The payment was to be made to the

(Continued on page 7)

See January Decree Trial

Counsel for decree companies indicated here yesterday that they expect hearings on the Department of Justice's proposals for amendment of the consent decree to start some time in January. As reported exclusively in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, the Department will ask Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard in U. S. District court here on Dec. 5 to set a date for hearing on the decree proposals.

On that date, Dec. 5, Assistant U. S. Attorney General Robert L.

(Continued on page 7)

Government Orders 450 Color Prints

All film companies have been set back approximately 30 days on new Technicolor prints, as a result of an order placed by the Government for approximately 450 color prints for war shorts.

Typical: M-G-M has no prints on hand for "National Velvet" and "Meet Me in St. Louis," other than the one each secured for trade showings. Other companies are in similar positions.

Cut 'Milking' of 1st Runs To Ease Product Jam-Up

By SAM HONIGBERG

CHICAGO, Nov. 14.—Latest effort employed by first run houses here as a cooperative measure to ease the product jam-up is to 'pull' pictures long before their drawing power has been exhausted. Jack Flynn, Western division manager for M-G-M, cited Balaban and Katz's pulling of "Marriage Is a Private Affair" out of the United Artists Theatre even though its receipts were strong enough to continue the picture indefinitely. This was done to make room for "An American Romance" which had been held up for lack of suitable first-run outlet.

Flynn revealed that he is making a deal for a two-week showing of "Kis-

(Continued on page 8)

Thanksgiving Scale In 40 States Nov. 23

Exhibitors in 40 states will be charging holiday prices on Thursday, Nov. 23, the Presidentially-proclaimed Thanksgiving Day in accordance with the Federal law enacted on Dec. 26, 1941. The seven states of Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Nebraska, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia will observe Thanksgiving on Nov. 30, sticking to the old last-Thursday-in-November tradition. Georgia will celebrate both Nov. 23 and 30.

Personal Mention

HARRY GRAHAM, Southern district sales manager for Universal, and ROY BRUER, branch manager at Atlanta, are visiting in Charlotte.

•

IRVING MACK, BILL BAKER and EDDIE BURNELL will represent the Chicago Variety tent at the Variety convention in Washington next week.

•

WANDA TUCHOCK, 20th-Fox writer, has been commissioned to write a special course on screenplay writing for the University of California.

•

WILLIAM R. FERGUSON, M-G-M exploitation director, and PINCUS SOBER, of the legal department, will leave today for Cincinnati.

•

JOHN CUNNINGHAM, vice president of the Savannah Theatre Co., is visiting Atlanta, where he plans to build a new theatre soon.

•

HAROLD HOPPER, general manager of the M-G-M studio, is in Washington, and will leave for the Coast from there tomorrow.

•

H. C. FULLER, manager for Sheffield-Republic at Salt Lake City, has returned there from a trip through Nevada and Utah.

•

GEORGE B. PROUD, treasurer of Western Electric Co. until 1941, will observe his 35th anniversary with the company today.

•

JOHN JENKINS, of Jenkins and Bougeois, Dallas distributors, will arrive in New York today on business.

•

NORMAN RYDGE, of Greater Union Theatres of Australia, will leave New York for Australia tomorrow.

•

MAURY GOLDSTEIN, M-G-M New Haven manager, will leave New York tomorrow for New Haven.

•

CLYDE WILLARD, assistant manager of the Utah Theatre, Salt Lake City, has left for Indianapolis.

•

J. LOUIS ROME, circuit operator in Baltimore, is confined to his home with a heart ailment.

•

CECIL VOGEL, of the Palace theatre, Memphis, is back at his desk after a short illness.

Company Heads at Humanitarian Award

"The presidents and general sales managers of every film company will go to Washington on Nov. 24 to participate in the annual presentation of the Humanitarian Award by the Variety Clubs," an organization announcement here stated yesterday.

Official Washington, it was said, will be represented by Cabinet officers, and Variety hints that President Roosevelt will attend. The dinner will be held at Washington's Mayflower Hotel.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 14

"WE are reluctant to have Sam Dembow leave our organization. He has been a valuable co-worker at Paramount where he has a host of friends who wish him well. We hope his new venture will prove a happy and profitable one for him and his associates."

So declared Barney Balaban publicly in announcing Dembow's resignation to become president of Edward A. Golden Productions.

Balaban was reflecting the state of affairs as it stood. By no means was his comment in the nature of those perfunctory expressions of regret which have been known to prevail under different circumstances.

■

It is one of those completely open secrets that Dembow was financially interested in "Hitler's Children." There were others, but they are not part of this account. The first phases of the partnership with Eddie Golden, moreover, naturally went beyond to include "The Master Race."

Were all the shots to be fired by him out of his own artillery, Dembow would have remained at Paramount. In fact, this is what he wanted, but he also wanted to continue his outside interests. From an organizational and corporate point of view, however, this confronted Balaban with a problem. It must be reported for Dembow that he, too, recognized this.

■

The upshot was that Balaban gave full sanction to the first deal, informed Dembow there could be no others. On the time clock, therefore, Dembow's decision to proceed on his own was established some months ago. His participation in "The Master Race" makes that clear enough.

The severance of Paramount relations was arranged thereafter in complete harmony. The accord was so friendly it reduces to the absurd those occasional New York rumblings that Dembow and Leonard Goldenson were not hitting it off any too well.

■

His extensive experience — thirty years of it—makes Dembow one of the best known executives in the industry. His three decades embrace a vast knowledge of theatre operation and intimate information on picture values and potentialities. If it may be said with assurance that any one man in this business knows what makes attractions tick and click after they are produced, such a distinction would fit Dembow.

Production will be a new field for him, but the actual job of making whatever the Golden company undertakes will not be Dembow's. He will be party to the decisions and a decided influence in their formulation quite naturally, but it is Bob Golden who will face the fire.

Dembow, as president, and Golden, as producer, leave an open spot for Eddie. What about him? Those who know "Doc" need no enlightenment. Those who do not are entitled to know he'll be in there pitching, dreaming up ideas. If he flies too high, there's always Dembow.

He flies high, too, but only when he's in a plane. The rest of the time he is on solid terra firma.

■ ■

Strong resentment flared, then subsided, over the statement accredited to Eddie Bracken, actor, that he might be risking his professional life by campaigning for Governor Dewey and that many others as well in Hollywood were fearful about declaring their political affiliation. Whether he was conscious or unconscious, Bracken thereby suggested to the public that intimidation as to the ballot existed here.

This is sheer nonsense, of course. "Hollywood-for-Dewey," with a published membership of about 250 men and women, declared itself first; the committee for the President followed. John C. Flinn, active on the Dewey side, states there were "hundreds and hundreds" of others who lined up on the Republican side. Their names were not published because the weight of those in the original group was held to be sufficiently impressive, not because any strings had been placed upon anyone's avowed affiliation.

Bracken, surely, did his industry no good. The hope is he did it no harm.

■ ■

A famous star was displaying an extremely handsome pocket knife over the luncheon table the other day. It was one of those complicated affairs equipped with all gadgets except plumbing for running water.

"You can whittle the scenery between takes," suggested one producer, hopefully.

"Why whittle the scenery?", inquired the star. "I chew that."

$250,000 Gross At 'Night of Stars'

A sold-out house of 20,000 jammed Madison Square Garden here last night, turning in a gross approximating $250,000 for the 11th annual "Night of Stars," the net of which will go to the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine. The net was $110,000.

Messages from President Roosevelt, Governor Dewey and Mayor LaGuardia were read during the show.

Some 500 entertainers from all branch of show business appeared.

Fiftieth Anniversary Luncheon by Ampa

The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, at a directors' meeting here yesterday, decided on an industry luncheon in New York commemorating the 50th anniversary of commercial motion pictures, to be held sometime in December.

Plans are now being formulated by a committee including Ampa president Martin Starr, past president Vincent Trotta, Blanche Livingston, James Zabin, Jacques Kopfstein, Dave Bader, and others to be named.

The War Activities Committee originally had planned a 50th anniversary industry banquet.

Walter Brown Named WAC Publicity Chief

Walter T. Brown, associate coordinator with Francis S. Harmon at the War Activities Committee, will assume the additional duties of WAC publicity director, Harmon announced yesterday. Brown succeeds Ed Schreiber, who resigned to join Richard Condon, Inc., as vice-president.

Brown, prior to his affiliation with the WAC, was executive secretary to former Gov. Herbert H. Lehman. He was previously chief of the Albany bureau of Associated Press.

Trucios Appointed WB Manager in Peru

Appointment of Armando Trucios as Warner manager for Peru was announced here yesterday by Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warners' International Corp. in charge of that territory. Trucios formerly was Warner manager in Panama.

Sam Bekeris continues as supervisor for Peru, Panama and Colombia, with headquarters in Peru.

Zanuck Documentary

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—Darryl Zanuck's next film, provided the Government approves, will be a documentary-type feature timed for release inside Germany after the war.

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Bigger with every picture

and biggest of all in M-G-M's

"MRS. PARKINGTON."

Of Major Parkington they said: "He will always be an adventurer—but he'll always adore her!"

Bigger with every picture
and biggest of all in M-G-M's
"MRS. PARKINGTON."

GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON
in
Mrs. Parkington
with
EDWARD ARNOLD • AGNES MOOREHEAD • CECIL KELLAWAY
GLADYS COOPER • FRANCES RAFFERTY
TOM DRAKE • PETER LAWFORD
DAN DURYEA • HUGH MARLOWE
and the
ST. LUKE'S CHORISTERS
SCREEN PLAY BY ROBERT THOEREN AND POLLY JAMES • BASED ON THE NOVEL BY LOUIS BROMFIELD
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE
Directed by TAY GARNETT • Produced by LEON GORDON

FROM ITS OPENING DAY THAT BROKE ALL M-G-M RECORDS THE THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE OF RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL'S LONG RUN IS MATCHED THROUGHOUT AMERICA.

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP MGM

Holdovers Firm at N. Y. First-runs; 'Irish Eyes' Heavy

(Continued from page 1)

rated a highly profitable $31,000 in its first and will hold over at the Criterion.

The Strand will conclude the run of "The Conspirators" with an estimated $38,000 for the fourth week with "The Very Thought of You" and Abe Lyman's band on the stage starting Friday. The Hollywood maintained its strong pace with "To Have and Have Not," taking $34,000 in the fifth week; it will continue. The Capitol is winding up the third and final week of "Marriage Is a Private Affair" tonight with an estimated $60,000; "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" and Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra, plus Henny Youngman, will open tomorrow.

The Paramount, with "I Love a Soldier," coupled with Tony Pastor and band, Bert Wheeler, Marion Hutton and Hal LeRoy, got a moderate $53,000 in its second week; the show will hold for a third and final week starting today, giving way to "And Now Tomorrow." "Frenchman's Creek" at the Rivoli scored $36,000 for the eighth week, while "Kismet," at the Astor, in its 12th week, equalled the previous week's mark of $16,000, and continues. "The Great Moment" will register a quiet $12,000 in its first week at the Globe ending Friday, and is expected to hold.

Second week for "The Master Race" at the Palace was heading for an estimated $17,000; "None But the Lonely Heart" will open Friday. "Summer Storm" was good for about $12,500 at the Gotham in its fourth week and is holding. "The Mark of the Whistler" is yielding the Rialto $10,000 on its initial week, and is also holding. "Wilson" at the Victoria shows a seventh week gross of $6,600 and will continue. "Waterloo Bridge" at the Republic will gross $6,200 in its third week ending today, and will continue for another two days before making way for "Brazil" on Saturday.

Three from Golden At $3,000,000

(Continued from page 1)

mount, will assume charge of the company's operation in the East, while Edward Golden will center his headquarters on the Coast. Dembow's resignation from Paramount is effective Dec. 1.

Three stories in preparation are: "Breakfast at Sardi's," a film adaptation of the Hollywood radio program; "Henry Kaiser Wakes the Doctor," from the novel by Paul de Kruif, and a film based on Frederick L. Collins' book, "FBI in Peace and War." "Breakfast" will go into production about Feb. 1, Golden said. Future distribution plans are not set, he said.

Financing of the three films will be done solely by the company, with Dembow, who participated in the financing of previous Golden productions, continuing to do so, Golden stated.

'Tokyo' Runs 140 Minutes

M-G-M's "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" runs 140 minutes, and not 100 minutes as inadvertently stated in a review of that picture appearing here yesterday.

Studios Fear New Union Demands Like Petrillo's

(Continued from page 1)

IA treasury, it was stated at the time, to be applied to vacation, retirement and other benefit payments to IA members.

A possible application of Petrillo's victory also looms in the pending action filed by the Screen Cartoonists Guild to compel Walt Disney Productions to yield to them 20 per cent of all rental grosses from Disney reissues.

Long in dispute, the Disney cartoonist question moved closer to a decision last week when a War Labor Board panel here recommended that the Regional Labor Board order the disputants to negotiate the point. It is known that the Screen Actors', Screen Directors' and Screen Writers' guilds are watching this test case "with interest," although they have not yet made a formal decision whether they would make parallel demands on Disney if the cartoonists are successful and are awarded the 20 per cent demanded, or any part thereof.

By the same token, a successful decision for the cartoonists might well pave the way for similar demands by other guilds on reissues other than cartoons. William Pomerance, attorney here, who presented the cartoonists' case to the War Labor Board panel, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY today that, "Petrillo's victory makes it seem more plausible that the cartoonists might find support for their claims."

However, Pomerance explained, "Our position is, 34 unions contribute in some degree to our product (cartoons). If each claims 20 per cent of the gross from cartoon reissues, it is going to be hard to accommodate all of them out of 100 per cent."

Responsible studio quarters here interpret the Petrillo union's royalty collection as being tantamount to taxation in addition to Federal taxation.

Attorneys Expecting Jan. Decree Trial

(Continued from page 1)

Wright, and his aides, will be in New York from Washington for the hearing on the action of Harry Arthur, St. Louis theatre operator, attacking the legality of the decree and its arbitration provisions. Wright will utilize the occasion to ask for the setting of a hearing date on the proposed decree amendments. The hearing on the Arthur action had been postponed from Nov. 4 to Dec. 5 because of the trial of the Government anti-trust case against the Schine circuit which was in progress then in Federal court at Buffalo and in which Wright was engaged.

Decree company counsel met here yesterday to receive a report on and discuss the Schine trial proceedings.

Carlin, Blue Program Director, Resigns

Phillips Carlin, vice-president in charge of program operations of the Blue Network, has resigned, effective immediately.

Carlin, who entered radio in 1922, has been with the Blue since 1941. He was formerly with NBC as Eastern program director, manager of sustaining programs and assistant to the vice-president in charge of programs.

Benefit for Canteen

The Cathedral Canteen of the National Catholic Community Service, USO, here, will be the beneficiary of a dance and entertainment by the Catholic Actors Guild of America at the Hotel Astor on Nov. 17. Gene Buck is president of the Guild and Edward P. Mulrooney is chairman of the advisory board.

Allied Meets Today

TRENTON, Nov. 14.—A joint luncheon-meeting of North and South Jersey units of Allied of New Jersey will be held at the Stacy-Trent hotel here tomorrow, presided over by Helen Hildinger and Si Meyers, co-chairmen.

'Combat America' Premiere Today

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 14. — World premiere of "Combat America," documentary feature made by Clark Gable for the 8th Air Force, will take place today before 10,000 employees of the Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co., manufacturer of the electronic autopilot used on America's bombers.

Rodgers Leads 16 To Sales Meeting

William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager of M-G-M, will head a home office group of 16 who will leave New York today for Cincinnati and a four-day mid-season meeting of sales and district managers which opens tomorrow.

Departing this afternoon will be: Edward M. Saunders, E. W. Aaron, E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, William R. Ferguson, H. M. Richey, Walter Brooks, Paul J. Richrath, Charles F. Deesen, Alan F. Cummings, Harold Postman, Leonard Hirsch, Joel Bezahler, Irving Helfent, Benjamin Melniker and Pincus Sober.

Attending from the field will be: George A. Hickey, Burtus Bishop, Jr., Charles E. Kessnich, Rudolph Berger, Sam A. Shirley, John P. Byrne, Maurice N. Wolff, Robert Lynch, John J. Bowen, John E. Flynn and John J. Maloney.

Canadian Pioneers Will Meet Nov. 29

TORONTO, Nov. 14. — Canadian Picture Pioneers will hold its annual meeting here Nov. 29, at the King Edward Hotel, president Clair Hague reported today. The organization now has a membership of 300.

Al London Killed

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 14.—Al London, who managed the Cayuga Theatre here prior to entering the Armed Forces, has been killed in action.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

RKO Promotions in South to Fred Ford

Fred Ford has been appointed RKO promotional supervisor for the Southern area with headquarters in Atlanta, it was announced here by S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising-publicity..

Ford will supervise exploiteers Carol Weed, in charge of Atlanta and Charlotte; Charles Underwood, Memphis and New Orleans; Fred Galvin, Dallas and Oklahoma City.

Other changes in RKO's field staff announced by McCormick were: Maurice Harris, from Buffalo and Albany to Philadelphia, replacing Bob Pryor, resigned; Alan Weider, from Pittsburgh to Buffalo and Albany; Charles Rader, who takes over Pittsburgh; Bill Prager, from San Francisco to Chicago, with the San Francisco territory to be temporarily handled by Dave Cantor, Western supervisor.

Fly Leaves Today; Cited for Service

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—President Roosevelt announced yesterday the resignation of James L. Fly as chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, but added that Fly would be only on 'furlough.' The resignation takes effect tomorrow.

De Mille Defies Afra

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—Cecil B. De Mille is risking his $5,000 a week radio salary through refusal to pay the American Federation of Radio Artists' assessment of one dollar to oppose "Proposition 12" in the recent election.

Sixth Loan Drive Ahead of Fifth in Special Events

(*Continued from page* 1)

in the number of theatres becoming issuing agents."

Nationally, to date, Bond Premieres total 1,352, of which 257 are located in towns of 7,500 population or under; Free Movie Days, 2,515; and Children's Matinees, 332, with 61 of the latter in small towns.

Prior to leaving for New York for the final meeting in the series, on Friday, Brandt said Dallas was leading the country in Bond Premiere and Free Movie Day pledges, with 234 of the former and 302 of the latter, while Boston was ahead in Children's Matinees, with 55. All exchange cities, however, have not yet been heard from.

Philadelphia stands second in Bond Premiere pledges with 190, followed by Boston, 114; Denver, 82; Kansas City, 77, Pittsburgh and Des Moines, 57 each, and Salt Lake City, 39.

Philadelphia is also runner-up in the number of free Movie Day shows, with 224, followed by Boston, 218; Des Moines, 170; Pittsburgh, 146; Denver, 59; Salt Lake City, 21; and Kansas City, 11.

Dallas stands second in Children's Matinees, with 48, followed by Pittsburgh, 45; Denver, 26; Salt Lake City, 19; Kansas City, 14, and Des Moines, 5.

500 at Philadelphia Meet

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 14.—More than 500 distribution and theatre representatives from Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware attended a meeting at the Warwick Hotel here yesterday to lay final plans for the Sixth War Loan drive. Speakers were: Harry Brandt, national industry bond chairman; Ned E. Depinet, John Hertz, Jr., Nathan Yamins, Lt. Col. Roswell Rosengren, Lt. Lewis Largey and Jay Emanuel. Ben Fertel, chairman for Eastern Pennsylvania, was toastmaster.

Harmon Helps Open Show

Frances S. Harmon, War Activities Committee coordinator, spoke yesterday at the opening of a 'Movies at War' exhibit in Pershing Square here.

$1,125,000 to War Chest from Industry

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 14.—With Hollywood campaign chairman Charles W. Koerner reporting the industry's contribution approximately $1,125,000 at the end of a meeting tonight at the Ambassador Hotel here, attended by 500 representatives of all local groups, the Los Angeles Area War Chest drive went over the top. The sum raised by 800 volunteer campaign workers represents donations by more than 23,000 of a potential 25,000 donors in the production branch.

Cadman to Monogram

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—R. J. Cadman, formerly with Universal's San Francisco exchange, has been named manager of Monogram's Portland, Ore., branch.

End 'Milking' to Ease Product Jam

(*Continued from page* 1)

met" in B. and K.'s Chicago Theatre early in December, although a picture of this type normally plays the United Artists.

The product jam here, Flynn explained, will force M-G-M to sell the "Naughty Marietta" reissue to B. and K. as part of a double bill; it will probably play the Garrick, following "Wilson." For the same reason, the run of "Since You Went Away" will not be 'milked' dry at the State-Lake, to make room for an early showing of "Frenchman's Creek." "SYWA" has held up strongly for five weeks and could remain through the Christmas holidays.

WB Starts Business In France and Italy

(*Continued from page* 1)

offices in Marseille, Toulouse and Lille also are operating.

Mario Zema, managing director in Italy, has resumed direction in Rome and other liberated cities in Italy. Hummel is now awaiting a French Government visa and transportation facilities to Paris, in order to take over direction throughout Europe.

SAG Mass Meet Dec. 3

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—The Screen Actors Guild has set Dec. 3 for a mass meeting of its "B" members to present facts bearing on the forthcoming National Labor Relations Board election on the bargaining agency for extras.

Aurora Miranda, surrounded by a bevy of handsome beaus, as she gaily gives out with one of the hit tunes from "Brazil," Republic's new million dollar musical.

ADVT.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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Dallas Short Of Equipment And Manpower

Lack of Office Space An Exchange Problem

By FAIRFAX NISBET

DALLAS, Nov. 15.—The most urgent needs of industry operations in this territory, needs which cannot be satisfied until the war is over, are equipment for theatres and additional office space for exchanges, a survey just completed here reveals. The manpower shortage is also acute.

Indications are that the need of Dallas exchanges for expanded facilities will be satisfied early in the postwar period. Plans already are being prepared for a film center building for the city, to house

(*Continued on page 7*)

Rank-Odeon Deal to Be Set Next Week

Negotiations for J. Arthur Rank of London to acquire a half interest in the 90 Odeon theatres in Canada headed by Paul Nathanson, are "progressing favorably" and might be finalized next week, John H. Davis, co-managing director of Odeon Theatres in Great Britain and representative of Rank told MOTION PICTURE DAILY here yesterday.

Davis, who returned from Toronto yesterday to spend several days in New York, confirmed the fact that another aspect of his mission here for Rank is to find a Broadway site upon which to erect a 2,500-seat theatre.

Zanuck Aims Film At Nazi Complex

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 15.—Use of motion pictures to prove to the German people in the postwar that "their armies were not made up of great and noble heroes," is suggested by Darryl Zanuck, who plans to develop that theme in his next film, a documentary-type feature. "Pictures can convey visually and with terrific impact the barbarities inflicted upon the innocent by the Nazis," the producer added.

Outside Leaders to Meet Here Today on Community Problem

Will H. Hays, MPPDA president, will be host here today to a number of leaders associated with educational, civic, patriotic, religious, international, cultural, youth and recreational interests. They will meet in the Waldorf-Astoria for an exchange of views on community problems, in which some leaders of the industry in New York will join.

"This preliminary meeting will be purely informal and exploratory," explained an MPPDA statement yesterday, adding: "Hays' guests will be present in their individual and not in

(*Continued on page 6*)

Para. Names Hake to South Africa Post

Paramount has named Clay V. Hake as its first resident representative in South Africa, John W. Hicks, president of Paramount International Films, announced here yesterday. Hake, a veteran domestic and overseas film executive, was originally with 20th Century-Fox as Pittsburgh and Denver manager and later was managing director in Australia and

(*Continued on page 7*)

'Dimes' Drive Jan. 25-31: Schenck

National March of Dimes chairman Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, announced here yesterday that the industry's 1945 drive will take place for one week, Jan. 25-31. Opening the drive on a Thursday was set because of the large number of theatres that start a new week on that day.

Ship to Be Named For M. E. Comerford

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 15.—The U. S. Maritime Commission announced here today that a Liberty ship, to be named for M. E. Comerford, will be launched at the J. A. Jones shipyard, Brunswick, Ga., on Dec. 12. The Commission indicated Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, nephew of Comerford, will be on hand, in addition to state and city leaders and heads of the industry.

Comerford, who died Feb. 1, 1939, at the age of 71, was a leader in exhibition. He had been in the film business for 35 years. He founded and was an officer of the MPTOA and was head of Comerford Theatres, operating in Pennsylvania and New York, and was also associated with Ed Fay in Rhode Island houses.

U. S. to Ask Industry to Report on Fixed Capital

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—Motion picture producers and all classes of manufacturing establishments will be asked to report their gross and net fixed capital as part of the return to be made early next year for the 1944 cenus of manufacturers, it was learned today.

Designed to show the productive capacity of the nation at the peak of its war effort, the census also will develop important information regarding the concentration of industry. This information will not be new with respect to the industry centered in Hollywood, but it will for the first time centralize statistics on the industry's investment in plants and inventory.

The last census of manufacturers was made in 1939 and showed how industry was then recovering from the depression. The coming census, ordered by President Roosevelt, is designed to show what the country can

(*Continued on page 7*)

Current Program of OWI to Continue

Hollywood, Nov. 15.—Extent, if any, to which cessation of war in Europe might affect War Activities Committee operations here in cooperation with the Office of War Information, domestic division, would be determined in New York on the basis of exhibitor attitude, according to John C. Flinn, co-ordinator of the Western branch of WAC. He said that neither the end of the war in Europe or of the whole war would have a bearing on the current program of OWI subjects for production, which span the period between now and February and all of which deal with post-war topics.

Variety Clubs' Humanitarian Award to Hull

Honored for Efforts in Behalf of World Peace

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—Secretary of State Cordell Hull will be the recipient on Nov. 24 of the Humanitarian Award for 1944, conferred each year by the Variety Clubs of America, it was announced today by R. J. O'Donnell, National Chief Barker.

The award to Hull is being made "for his tireless efforts in behalf of World Peace." With the award goes a silver plaque and $1,000 to be presented at a dinner in the Mayflower Hotel, which will be the highlight of a two-day business meeting of the Variety Clubs.

The Humanitarian Award is conferred annually on the American citi-

(*Continued on page 7*)

First Bond Medal to Coal Field Showman

The first award of the industry's "Medal of Honor" for participation in the Sixth War Loan drive, was presented here yesterday by Harry Brandt, national chairman, to Pete Magazzu of Eastern Pennsylvania.

Magazzu operates 11 theatres in 11 coal mining towns of Pennsylvania. In several of the towns the popula-

(*Continued on page 6*)

NBC Won't Answer Upton Close Charge

The decision to replace radio news commentator Upton Close on his regular Sunday broadcast period at the expiration of his present contract on Dec. 10 was made by National Broadcasting Co. executives several months ago, it was learned here yesterday.

The spot will be taken over by Max

(*Continued on page 6*)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Murder in the Blue Room," Universal, appears on page 10.

Personal Mention

NEIL AGNEW, vice-president of Vanguard Films, Inc., will return to New York from Montreal today.

•

FRANK R. ROGERS of Florida State Theatres, and H. F. KINCEY of Wilby & Kincey Theatres, both associated with Paramount, are New York visitors.

•

DOROTHY CARTWRIGHT DOE of Warner's West Coast story department has won the $1,000 third prize for her short story in the current issue of *Read Magazine*.

•

NED E. DEPINET, RKO Radio president, returned to New York yesterday after a swing around the country with the industry's Sixth War Loan national committee.

•

CAPTAIN SPERIE PERAKOS, son of PETER PERAKOS, co-owner of Quittner and Perakos Theatres in Connecticut, has been awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service in France.

•

CONSTANTIN BAKALEINIKOFF, head of RKO Radio's Hollywood music department, will leave there soon for a month's business trip to Mexico City.

•

BERNIE KRANZE, RKO Radio Eastern Central district sales manager, left New York yesterday to return to his headquarters in Cleveland.

•

MURRAY LAFAYETTE of the 20th Century-Fox San Francisco office has become the father of a daughter, LESLIE ILONA.

•

ARLENE WHELAN, wife of HUGH OWEN, general sales manager of Vanguard Films, left for the Coast yesterday.

•

HARRY H. THOMAS, Monogram's Eastern division sales manager, will return to New York today from Albany.

•

GEORGE BROWN, head of Paramount studio publicity, is scheduled to arrive in New York from the Coast tomorrow.

•

SAM HOROWITZ, Midwest sales representative of Vanguard Films, is in New York for sales conferences.

•

DAVID HANNA, Los Angeles *Daily News* film columnist, is a New York visitor.

'Together Again' Party

Irene Dunne will entertain five wounded servicemen today at a "Together Again" party to be held at the Columbia home office. The soldiers, unsuspectingly, will be reunited, for the first time since their return, with their wives or sweethearts. There will be a private screening of Columbia's new "Together Again," which stars Miss Dunne.

Defer SLRB Meet In RKO Pact Talks

The hearing before the New York State Board of Mediation in the contract dispute between RKO and Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistant managers in 40 Metropolitan RKO theatres, originally scheduled for today, has been postponed to next Monday. N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, was to have been present at the hearing.

The IATSE has challenged the claim of jurisdiction over the cashiers and assistant cashiers in the RKO theatres as made by the Motion Picture Theatre Cashiers Union of RKO, which appeared before the State Labor Relations Board here on Tuesday seeking designation as collective bargaining agent.

The RKO cashiers were originally organized with the managers and assistant managers but as a result of IATSE intercession they were placed in a separate unit. The SLRB is now expected to hold a formal hearing, but no date has been set.

SAG Sees Election as 'Creating Conflict'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 15.—The Screen Actors Guild intends "zealously to safeguard" the jurisdiction over all acting work regardless of the outcome of the bargaining-agency election which has been ordered by the National Labor Relations Board, to determine the bargaining agency for extra players, according to the guild's first official comment on the order.

Noting that the NLRB decision to hold the election declared that the proper bargaining unit should be made up of not only those who do extra work solely but also of those who perform stunts, sing or play bit parts, the guild statement claimed that these, even in the event of the competitive Screen Players Union's victory, would remain SAG members. "Therefore, the decision seems to create a conflict as to overlapping jurisdiction," the SAG statement added.

Meeting Set for Tomorrow

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 15.—The Labor Relations Board has set Friday as the day for its meeting with the Screen Players Union, Screen Actors Guild and studio employers to plan for the election of extra players to determine their choice of bargaining groups.

Pollack, Equipment Veteran, Joins RCA

CAMDEN, Nov. 15.—Al Pollack has joined the theatre equipment section of RCA Victor here, it was reported by Homer B. Snook, sales manager.

Pollack entered the industry in 1919 with Minusa Cine Screen of St. Louis. He was later with American Silver Sheet Co., Walker Screen, Automatic Devices, Baldor Electric, Best Devices, American Mat, Stanley Frame, G-M Laboratories and Ampro Corp.

Councilmen Ask Ban on Coward

A resolution calling upon theatre owners and patrons, publishers and readers to support a ban on Noel Coward's works has been introduced by five Brooklyn councilmen in New York City Council, stemming from Coward's 'slur' upon Brooklyn soldiers in his new book, "Middle East Diary."

Two of Coward's new films, "This Happy Breed" and "Blithe Spirit" are to be released here by United Artists for J. Arthur Rank.

Cohen Will Set WB In Latin America

Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner International Corp., will leave here today for his first tour of his recently assigned Latin-American territory, to survey conditions and set up marketing plans for the company's new Spanish-dubbed product.

Initial group of Warner Spanish-dubbed pictures to be released in Latin-America, Cohen stated, will be: "To Have and Have Not," to be shown in January, followed by "Objective, Burma," "Roughly Speaking," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Men Without Destiny," "My Reputation," "Conflict" and "The Corn Is Green."

Cohen's first stop will be Mexico City, after which he will visit Cuba and other offices in the Caribbean. He expects to be gone about six weeks, returning to New York headquarters before visiting other South American, Australian and Far East territories under his supervision.

Pioneers to Induct 25 At Christmas Party

The executive committee of Picture Pioneers approved 25 applications for membership at a luncheon-meeting held here yesterday. The new members will be inducted at a pre-Christmas dinner to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Dec. 13.

Applicants accepted were: Salem E. Applegate, Henry R. Arias, John Balaban, Harold Blumenthal, Frank Boucher, Joseph D. Eagan, Joseph DeFranes, Jean Hersholt, E. J. Hudson, William E. Jenkins, Myron J. Kallet, Morris J. Kandel, Sidney B. Lust, William Massce, Vincent R. McFaul, Paul C. Mooney, Harry A. Post, Max Rothstein, A. M. Kapf, M. Rudin, William A. Shirley, Andrew Smith, Jr., Eugene Spitz, Harry J. Takiff and William S. Wilder.

Villers Returns Soon

Sir Edward Villers of Ealing Studios, London, will return to England within two weeks, after a stay here of several months. Villers was making a survey for Michael Balcon's company, of American distribution outlets for possible release here of Balcon's films. He has not closed any deal as yet.

Brecher Scores Cit Zoning Amendmen

Leo Brecher, head of Leo Brech Theatres here, appearing before a pu lic hearing of the New York Board Estimate at City Hall yesterday, a tacked the proposed amendments the City Planning Commission to t city's zoning resolution, which, it claimed, would reduce total grou space of theatre and other building

Brecher, who appeared before t board as a motion picture exhibit has filed plans for a theatre at 53 St. and Sixth Ave., and declared th adoption of the proposed amendme would cut down the ground floor the structure, which he plans to ere on a 75 x 100 foot plot, from 7,5 square feet to 5,875.

Brecher was but one of a long su cession of witnesses from civic grou who protested against the propos amendments, which apply only to f ture building, and supported a mino ity report of the City Planning Co mission. Robert Moses, Commissio er of Parks, is a leading proponent the plan, while V. A. Huie, Commi sioner of Public Works and also member of the Planning Commissio presented a dissenting report to t board.

The proposed amendments to t zoning resolution will become law Dec. 1, unless the Board of Estima refers it back to the Planning Co mission for further study.

Cartoon Television Outlook by Terry

The Atlantic Coast section of t Society of Motion Picture Enginee met yesterday at the Hotel Pennsy vania, and heard Paul Terry, produ er of Terry-Toons, discuss the pa the animated cartoon is expected play in the development of televisio

Terry said that since the first scre cartoon, the industry has grown to point where 30,000,000 comic boo are sold monthly, and that today th have the greatest influence on the d velopment of children and will pl a similar part in the introduction television to the youth of the land.

Sistrom to Coast For J. Arthur Rank

William Sistrom, producer for Arthur Rank's Two Cities studio London, who arrived in New Yor from England last week, has gone Hollywood to survey American pr duction methods for possible adoptio by Rank's several producing comp nies.

Sistrom's Two Cities productio "Mr. Emanuel," will be the first the Rank films which United Artis will release in this country.

20th Loses 'Rosie' Plea

Federal Judge Francis G. Caffe in Federal Court here yesterday, d nied a plea by 20th Century-Fox dismiss an action against it by Mau Nugent Jerome, who claims unautho ized use of her title and song, "Swe Rosie O'Grady," in the film of t same name. The court ruled th plaintiff had a cause of action.

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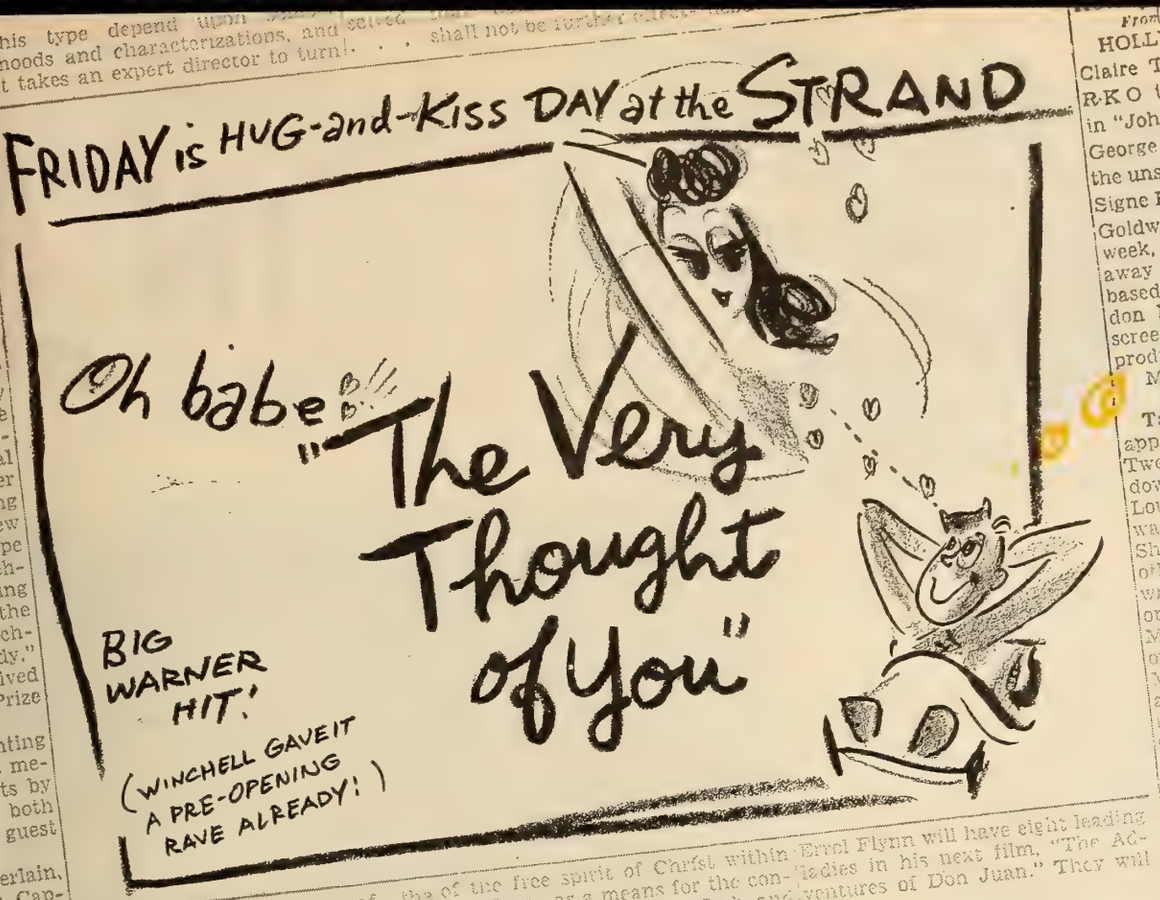


(From New York Teaser Campaign)

TIME NOW TO THINK ABOUT "The Very Thought of You" NEXT OF THE WARNER BIG ONES FOR YOU!

Grand performances all

ENNIS MORGAN • ELEANOR PARKER • DANE CLARK • FAYE EMERSON

in "THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU"

with BEULAH BONDI • HENRY TRAVERS • WILLIAM PRINCE • ANDREA KING

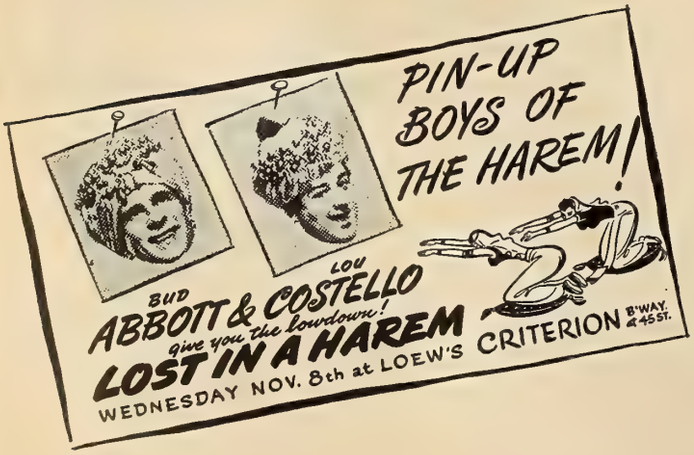
Produced by ERRY WALD • Screen Play by Alvah Bessie & Delmer Daves • Original Story by Lionel Wiggam • Music by Franz Waxman • Directed by DELMER DAVES

JACK L. WARNER
Executive Producer

RIGHT AND BELOW: Teaser Ads from the New York campaign

"IN A

IT'S



NUTSHELL
RECORD-CRACKING RIOT!"

M-G-MERRIMENT!

BUD ABBOTT & LOU COSTELLO

"LOST IN A HAREM"

IN A NUTSHELL

BUSINESS IS GREAT!

World Premiere at the Criterion, N.Y. is off to a Flying Start!

IN A NUTSHELL!

REVIEWER LEE MORTIMER SUMS IT UP IN HIS RAVE MIRROR REVIEW...

"LOST IN A HAREM" is gloom chaser . . . In fact, what this country needs is more and bigger harems, added Abbotts, increased Costellos . . . will knock you out of your seats. I fell over laughing . . . Marilyn Maxwell, the show's beauty, Jimmy Dorsey is in with his musicians, around whom colorful production numbers are built . . . There can be no harem without lovely gals. There are, therefore many of them in this one.

BUD ABBOTT · LOU COSTELLO in "LOST IN A HAREM" with MARILYN MAXWELL · John Conte Douglass Dumbrille · JIMMY DORSEY and his Orchestra · Screen Play by Harry Ruskin, John Grant and Harry Crane · Directed by Charles Riesner Produced by George Haight A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Short Subject Review

"V. 1"

(BMI-WAC-RKO)

"V-1," pulling no punches, shows ravages of the Nazi robot bombs which pounded London and Southern England for a toll of 26,000 dead and more than a million homes damaged or destroyed. Parts of London were all but blown off the Isle. But what the robots cannot do is also depicted here, in the resolute faces of Britons, young and old, who rally to clear away the debris, salvage the remains and begin building anew their homes—indeed their lives, while they fight back with increasing strength for the ultimate defeat of the Germans.

Photography is excellent, presenting a thrilling picture of the fighting English. It is a timely reminder to any who may have forgotten. Fletcher Markle's commentary, though subdued in favor of the actual pictures, which tell the story best, is extremely moving. The British Ministry of Information produced, and the War Activities Committee is distributing through RKO. Running time, 9 minutes.

Outside Leaders to Meet Here Today

(Continued from page 1)

their organizational capacities. It is expected to pave the way for increased emphasis on post-war problems in later public group conferences, which have always been part of the industry's community service program," it was said.

Carl E. Milliken, MPPDA secretary, will review for the conference the community service program of the industry. Joseph I. Breen, head of the Production Code Administration, here from Hollywood, will discuss the problems of self-discipline in production, and Francis S. Harmon, executive director of the War Activities Committee will review the special programs evolved by exhibitors and others in the industry to meet the war-time needs and and uses of the screen.

"Hays said he hoped that the discussion would result in the designation of an advisory committee that would continue to consider post-war cooperation among civic, social, educational and entertainment interests, looking towards a constantly improving standard of community service," said the MPPDA statement.

Carlton Asks Relief On N. Y. Clearance

Associated Playhouses, Inc., operator of the Carlton Theatre, Jamaica, L. I., has filed a clearance complaint in the New York tribunal against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The complainant alleges that the seven-day clearance which it is subject to after the Savoy, also Jamaica, is unreasonable, and asks that it be eliminated. The theatres, complainant notes, are a mile apart, with several prior run houses between them.

1st Bond Medal to Magazzu, Showman from Coal Fields

(Continued from page 1)

tion ranges from 556 to 5,000, and the biggest gross of any one theatre is not over $400 a week. Yet during the Fifth War Loan Drive, he was responsible for selling $240,000 worth of "E" Bonds. Sales based on seating capacity for his theatres were over $800 per seat.

Magazzu was accompanied to New York by Robert Lynch, Philadelphia branch manager for M-G-M. Also attending the ceremony were Jay Emanuel, Max A. Cohen, who conceived the "Medal of Honor" award, and representatives from several metropolitan dailies, syndicates and all newsreel companies.

$880,000 Bonds for Capitol's 'Tokyo'

Climaxing five days of bond rallies in Times Square for the Sixth War Loan Drive, M-G-M's "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" had its world premiere at the Capitol, New York, last night after $880,000 in small bond denominations were sold for the event.

The Merchant Marine Band took over the opening of the stage show, and Messmore Kendall, president of the Capitol Theatre Corp., addressed the gathering. Eight generals and two admirals, as well as officers who participated in the raids on Tokyo were among the audience. The Chungking premiere was also held last night in China.

WAC to Dedicate 'Statue of Liberty'

The War Activities Committee of the New York area will begin the Sixth War Loan tomorrow in Times Square, where a replica of the Statue of Liberty will be dedicated. About 1,200 theatre managers and film executives will attend.

Inaugurating the campaign three days before the official start of the drive, according to Malcolm Kingsberg, New York area chairman, affords film houses here an opportunity of selling a large amount of bonds over the coming weekend. Participating with the showmen in this demonstration, which will be highlighted by a "Salute to the Navy," will be military officers, civic leaders, officials of the War Finance Committee and stars of screen, stage and radio.

Convoys consisting of 50 sailors, Spars, Waves, Coast Guardsmen, a Navy band and rolling equipment will cover the five boroughs.

Convoy directors for the Bronx will be: Vincent Liguori, RKO, Sam Coolick, Loew's; for Queens, Ray Malone, RKO, Sid Kain, Loew's; Brooklyn, Mike Siegel, Century, Teddy Trust, Warner; Manhattan, Al Zimbalist, RKO, Arthur Price, Loew's; Richmond, Edgar Goth, St. George Theatre.

The ceremonies in Times Square will be preceded by a breakfast in the Hotel Astor, which theatre managers in the Metropolitan area will attend, as well as the presidents and executives of all the companies.

WAC Exploits Pacific Battles During 6th

CHICAGO, Nov. 15.—The War Activities Committee here is extending cooperation to the U. S. Navy in the exploitation of the Pacific War Theatre battle exhibit, to be staged on Navy Pier during the Sixth War Loan campaign. Trailers featuring Rear Admiral Clark H. Woodward, and 40x60 posters are being produced by the Navy for theatre exhibition.

Sixth Va. Loan Meeting Held in Fredericksburg

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., Nov. 15.—The second of a series of four regional Virginia luncheon-meetings for the Sixth War Loan, was held here at the Hotel Stratford, with Ben Pitts of the Pitts circuit and bond area chairman in charge of arrangements.

Theatremen present were urged by Morton C. Thalhimer, state chairman, to support the program. Speakers included: Tom Baldridge, Virginia drive director; Col. W. S. Hamblin, manager of the Buckingham Theatre, Arlington; Joe Brecheen, Washington War Activities Committee chairman; Roger Clark, chairman of the local War Finance Committee; Brock Whitlock, Loew's Theatre, Richmond, and state publicity chairman; Stuart White, Virginia's deputy manager of the War Finance Committee, and U. S. Navy chaplain Merle Irwin.

Depinet at Baltimore War Bond Meeting

BALTIMORE, Nov. 15.—Distributors and exhibitors attended a Sixth War Loan drive luncheon-meeting here yesterday under sponsorship of the War Activities Committee, with 300 present.

Preparations for the meeting were made by the MPTO of Maryland, of which Frank Hornig is president. Frank Durkee is chairman of the local Sixth War Loan industry participation, and C. Elmer Notle is his assistant. Speakers here included Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, Ned Depinet, Mayor McKeldin and others.

Eisenhower's Stars To Aid 6th in N. Y.

The four-star insignia worn by General Dwight Eisenhower in the European and Mediterranean invasions, was turned over to Fred Gehle, state chairman of the War Finance Committee of New York State, by Fred Schwartz and Joseph R. Springer, vice-president and general manager of the Century Theatre Circuit.

The stars will be given to the member of the 'Blue Star Brigade' who sells the highest number of bonds.

Paramount Pep Club Plans Bond Rally

The Paramount Pep Club will hold a Sixth War Loan rally next Tuesday at the home office, inaugurating Paramount's own bond drive, according to J. L. Brown, president of the club.

Speakers will include Robert M. Weitman, director of the Paramount Theatre here. A special film, produced by A. J. Richard, editor of Paramount News, will be reviewed. Irving Singer, director of the club's special events division, is in charge of arrangements, with E. A. Brown, chairman of the Paramount campaign. Drive assistants include: William J. Clark, treasurer; Joseph Zammit, assistant treasurer, and Charlotte Malamud, secretary. Al Finestone is in charge of publicity.

NBC Won't Answer Upton Close Charge

(Continued from page 1)

Hill, former Associated Press correspondent in Tokyo, who was released from Japanese internment in June, 1943. Hill joined the NBC news staff in November, 1943 and has since been covering the Mediterranean war theatre for the network. He is in London at present.

Close told a *Press-Scimitar* reporter in Memphis on Tuesday that "certain radical and communistic elements" were responsible for removing him from his Sunday afternoon broadcast spot on NBC which he occupied for 27 months. NBC heads would not comment on the charge.

Close's weekly program on the Mutual Network, also on Sundays, remains status quo and it will continue since it is in no way connected with the NBC program which was sponsored by the Sheaffer Pen Co. Close was not hired by Sheaffer but was bought from NBC as a "package show," according to C. R. Sheaffer, president of that company.

Henry J. Taylor, another news commentator, whose contract is not being renewed by the Blue Network, is being dropped solely for business reasons and the action does not have any political significance, according to Chester J. LaRoche, chairman of the board of the Blue.

'Jerome Kern Week' Will Start Dec. 11

Paul Whiteman is chairman of a committee which will organize a 'Jerome Kern Jubilee Week,' beginning Dec. 11, in commemoration of Kern's 40th anniversary as composer of musical scores for stage and screen productions.

At a luncheon given by Whiteman yesterday at Toots Shor's here, which was attended by orchestra leaders, radio personalities and newspaper critics, arrangements were made to inaugurate the observation. One of the highlights of the week will be the playing of music from Kern's latest film score, featured in Universal's "Can't Help Singing."

To Examine Skouras, Schenck for Hillside

Spyros Skouras and Joseph M. Schenck will be examined before trial between Nov. 20-22 in connection with the Hillside Amusement Corp.'s triple damage anti-trust suit against distributors.

Hillside, operator of the Mayfair in Hillside, N. J., claims it was deprived of product by the defendants, and seeks an injunction and triple damages of $900,000.

WPB Approves Theatre

SAVANNAH, Ga., Nov. 15.—The War Production Board has approved plans for the construction of a new theatre in the downtown section, following a survey, results of which indicated the need for additional recreational facilities for a wartime population.

Moon Succeeds Hopkins

ATLANTA, Ga., Nov. 15.—Lint Hopkins, film editor of the *Atlanta Journal*, has resigned due to ill health. Fred Moon succeeds him.

Humanitarian Award To Cordell Hull

(Continued from page 1)

zen whose "humanitarian efforts have contributed the most to the welfare of mankind." The recipient is selected by secret ballot by a national committee of 34 prominent newspapermen, magazine publishers and radio commentators, none of whom are members of Variety. Their identity is never disclosed so that their choice may be devoid of any bias or influence. Secretary Hull was the unanimous choice of the 34 panel members. Others who received the awards in the past were Father Flanagan, of "Boys' Town" fame; Martha Berry, educator; George Washington Carver, colored educator, and Sister Elizabeth Kenny, for her curative method of treatment for infantile paralysis.

Attending the Variety dinner this year will be high Government officials, Will Hays, presidents of the film companies, and stage, screen and radio stars. It is planned to make the Variety affair an annual one in Washington.

Hull's award will be presented to him by Albert Kennedy Rowswell, chairman of the Humanitarian Awards Committee of Variety Clubs, and John H. Harris, of Pittsburgh, a founder of the club.

'Wilson' Gets Zanuck Nobel Group Honor

Judging Darryl F. Zanuck's "Wilson" to be a "vital contribution to the education of peace in a postwar world," the committee for the American Nobel Anniversary dinner, to be held at the Astor Hotel here Dec. 10, has invited him to attend as guest speaker. It marks the first time in the history of these dinners that a film producer has been so honored.

Postwar peace education will be the theme of the forum, and Zanuck will discuss the contribution of the motion picture toward achieving that goal. His address will be broadcast over the Mutual network. Edgar Kobak, president of Mutual, will be among the guests.

Nick John Matsoukas of Skouras Theatres is secretary of the committee, and Daphne Dolores Skouras, daughter of Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, is in charge of the information division.

U. S. Seeking Data On Fixed Capital

(Continued from page 1)

do under the stress of need for everything it can turn out, but important segments of industry will be missing, due to the ban on the production of automobiles, radios and other articles and the restrictions on the output of booth equipment, theatre furnishings and many other items of commercial and individual consumption.

It is planned also to take a sample census of retail business, service, etc., which will develop information regarding theatre operations, and a study of consumer income and spending also is proposed, which would provide data regarding the changes in theatre attendance habits since the Department of Labor made similar studies some years ago.

Dallas Needs Equipment, Men and Office Space

(Continued from page 1)

all exchanges and provide all the space required.

The following are typical responses of exhibitors and exchange officials to queries as to their greatest current business needs as a result of restricted wartime supplies.

FRED JACK, Southern division manager of United Artists: "Our greatest need, aside from manpower, is more office space. We are now occupying office space in one building with our storage vaults and film inspection rooms in another building blocks away. I understand that there is a plan afoot to build a Film Center in Dallas which would house all the film exchanges, film accessories companies, and independent booking companies. It would be built by local capital but outside the industry. Film inspection rooms and storage vaults would all be on the ground floor, with space for branches of express and forwarding companies to facilitate shipping.

"After the war when priorities on such items as vaults for storage, filing cabinets, film inspection equipment are lifted, United Artists has plans to open branch exchanges in Memphis and Oklahoma City, which are now served by its Dallas branch."

JOHN ADAMS, secretary of Interstate Circuit, Inc.: "While we have a large maintenance department with mechanics and workmen who have done an excellent job of keeping our theatres in shape during the wartime period, we could use some new seats, draperies and carpets, all of which are on priority lists. We do not have any definite plans for expansion, but will build new theatres where the need arises, according to trends of postwar populations. We have one theatre planned, a suburban in Inwood Road."

P. G. CAMERON, independent, owner of the Peak, Airway and Grove theatres: "After the war nearly all theatres will take advantage of the lack of wartime restrictions to obtain new seats, carpets and other equipment. We have just rebuilt the Grove following a fire, and are starting construction on the Urban, also destroyed by fire, because the WPB gave the green light due to the need of theatres in these suburban districts. We plan to enlarge the Peak and renovate the equipment when the necessary items can be obtained."

R. I. PAYNE, vice-president of R. E. Griffith Theatres: "New seats and carpets are our greatest needs. We plan to install new equipment in all theatres that need it when this can be obtained. Also to build new theatres in communities and areas where there is a demand."

DONALD DIXON, owner and operator of the Haskell Theatre, independent suburban: "My theatre equipment has lasted very nicely during the war period. I have also gotten by on a washed air cooling system, a very necessary part of a Texas theatre's equipment, but after the war I look for many new developments in the field of cooling systems and plan to get the latest models when they are standard."

Charlotte Variety Names Rosenwald

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 15.—Benn H. Rosenwald, manager for M-G-M here, has been named chief barker of the local Variety Club, succeeding L. C. Sipe.

Others elected were: J. H. Dillon, first assistant chief barker; T. A. Little, second assistant chief barker; H. F. Kincey, dough guy, and Scott Lett, property master. Remainder of the 'crew' includes J. W. Greenleaf, Harry Hardy, Sam Hinson, Dean House, R. L. Simpson and J. H. Vickers.

Dumestre Heads Variety

ATLANTA, Nov. 15.—The local Variety Club has elected officers as follows: Jack Dumestre, chief barker; Paul Wilson, first assistant chief barker; Fred Coleman, second assistant; Dave Prince, property manager, and R. B. Wilby, dough guy.

Ohio Censors Cut 13

COLUMBUS, Nov. 15.—Ohio censors ordered eliminations only from 13 out of 117 films reviewed in October, compared with cuts ordered in 14 of 72 pictures the board reviewed in September.

Kelly Induction Monday

Actor Gene Kelly will be inducted into the Armed Forces by a Los Angeles draft board Monday, Selective Service headquarters here reported yesterday.

Para. Names Hake to South Africa Post

(Continued from page 1)

manager in Japan. He had also been assistant foreign manager of 20th-Fox with headquarters in New York.

Other major distributors will shortly announce a similar invasion of that field, it is understood. Hake's assignment will take him to Johannesburg as soon as a priority for plane passage can be cleared. The decision to install a representative in that territory followed the completion of a three-month study of the market by Del Goodman, Los Angeles manager for Paramount, who went to South Africa in March on a special overseas assignment. The story of Goodman's findings and Paramount's decision, along with that of some other distributors, was reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 2.

In early October, Paramount named James E. Perkins as manager of the Pacific and South African division, newly created to include the additional territory. Hicks stated that Hake's appointment completes Paramount's immediate plans for operations in the territory.

FWC Adds Tax

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 15.—Fox West Coast will add three cents to admission prices in San Bernardino, and one cent in Redondo Beach, where citizens voted local admission taxes in those amounts, instead of absorbing the levy.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 15

UNIVERSAL has lifted its option on Frank Ryan, whose most recent directorial chore was Deanna Durbin's "Can't Help Singing." . . . Walter Wanger has set Turhan Bey as the male star in his next color production for Universal, titled "A Night in Paradise." . . . Monogram has purchased "Trail Town Fever," by Bennet Foster, and will use it as the basis for a Western starring Johnny Mack Brown. . . . Herman J. Mankiewicz has been signed to a term writing contract by RKO. He is currently engaged on "The Spanish Main."

•

David O. Selznick today announced the purchase from RKO of the novel and screenplay "Duel in the Sun" for a Jennifer Jones' vehicle in Technicolor. Production will start in January.

•

Esther Fernandez, Mexican player, has arrived in Hollywood from Mexico City to view her first American film, Paramount's "Two Years Before the Mast," in which she plays opposite Alan Ladd. . . . Columbia has signed Jean Rogers for the feminine lead in "Men of the Deep." . . . Jake Milstein has joined Abbott-Herbert Productions as special representative.

•

Audrey Trotter and Tom Trout will have parts in M-G-M's "Her Highness and the Bellboy." . . . Lambert Hillyer has been signed to direct "Stranger from Santa Fe," next Monogram Western to star Johnny Mack Brown. . . . Eleanor Parker has been assigned the feminine lead in "This Love of Ours" at Warners. . . . Lizabeth Scott will make her debut in Hal Wallis' third picture for Paramount, "Don't Ever Grieve Me."

•

Producer Sam Zimbalist is in New York to attend the world premiere tomorrow of "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," which he produced for M-G-M. . . W. W. Ferguson, formerly with the Los Angeles *Daily News*, has joined Universal's studio publicity department.

•

Phyllis Thaxter has been assigned the lead in "Alter Ego," screen adaptation of an Arch Oboler radio play, which will be Jerry Bresler's next for M-G-M. . . . RKO Radio has borrowed Signe Hasso from M-G-M to play one of the feminine leads opposite George Raft in "Johnny Angel." . . . Marcy McGuire is the first actress to be cast in RKO Radio's forthcoming comedy, "Follow Your Heart," which Anthony Mann is scheduled to direct.

Expand Mexican Market

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 15.—John Goodham, one of the principal stockholders of Posa Films, recently returned from Buenos Aires, has reported that 18 Mexican films were exhibited in the Argentine this year and that 24 Mexican productions will be shipped to that country in 1945, indicating an expanding Argentinian market for Mexican product.

The Pulse of the Motion Picture

BOXOFFICE

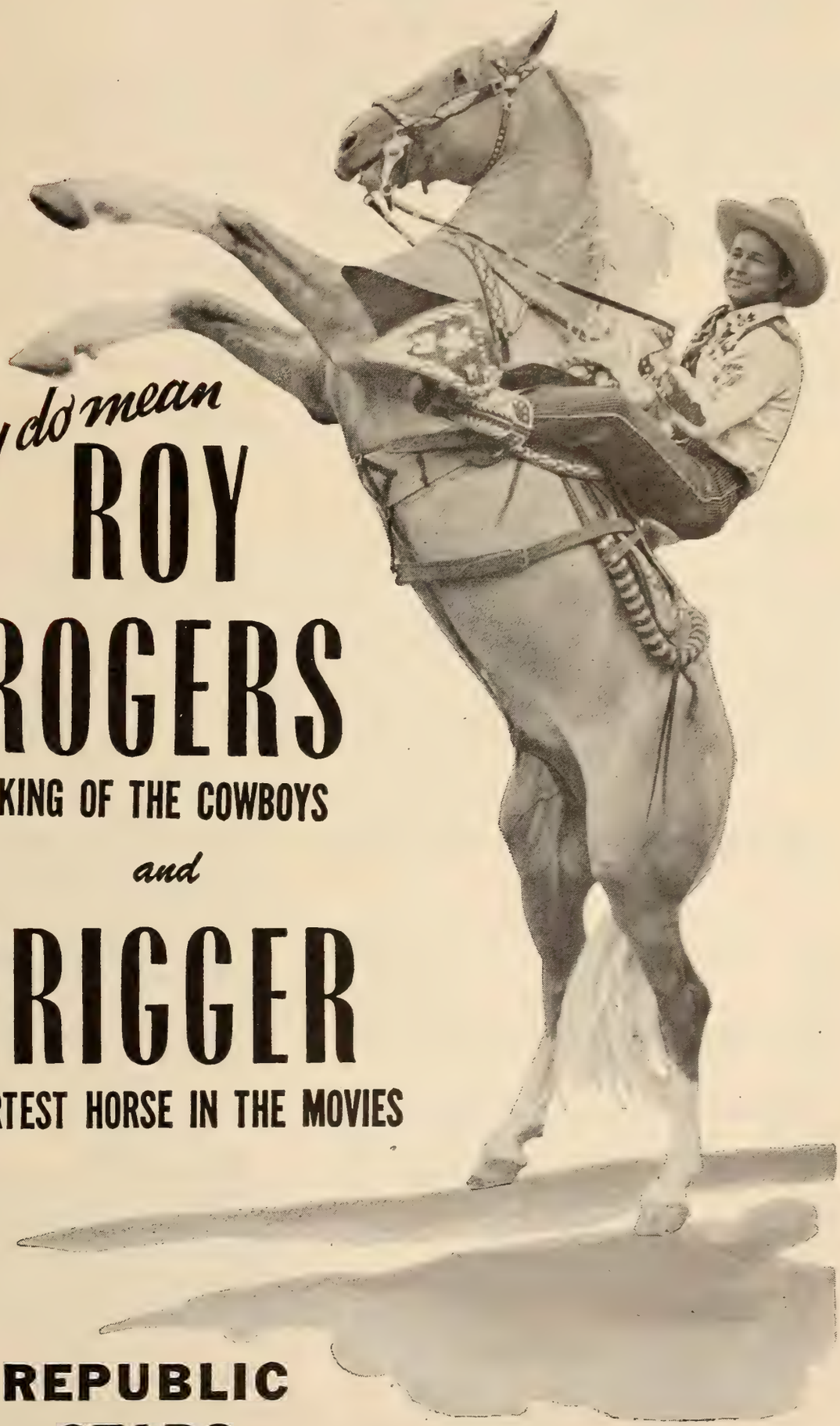
reports

GARSON, CROSBY AND ROGERS TOP ALL-AMERICAN FAVORITES

GREER GARSON

BING CROSBY

ROY ROGERS



and they do mean

ROY ROGERS

KING OF THE COWBOYS

and

TRIGGER

SMARTEST HORSE IN THE MOVIES

REPUBLIC STARS

'Soldier' Is Heavy Toronto Opener

TORONTO, Nov. 15.—"I Love a Soldier" looks like $12,800 at Shea's, with holdovers at three of five other theatres and "Arsenic and Old Lace" showing $12,300 for its second week at the Imperial. Fourth week of "Since You Went Away" will wind up with $9,200 at Loew's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 16:

"Hail the Conquering Hero (Para.)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
IMPERIAL — (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $11,200).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $12,800).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $4,900. (Average: $4,400).
"This Happy Breed" (British)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,800).

Production Hits High In War Chest Drive

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 15.—Production hit an all-time high for charity drives when it obtained $1,170,349 for the Los Angeles War Chest campaign which closed with cash gifts from 24,534 out of a potential 25,000 film donors here.

Drive chairman Charles Koerner, head of RKO production, said here that additional donations are expected from persons contacted by wire and cable.

Review

"Murder in the Blue Room"

(Universal)

UNIVERSAL is pretty much justified in calling this "The Merriest of Musical Mysteries." The combination of murder, mystery and music here is riotously funny. The cast, with a better-than-average story, good gags and clever musical routines, apparently enjoyed the shenanigans to the utmost. This looks like a real winner, apparently unanticipated.

Bill MacWilliams, in love with Anne Gwynne, disappears on the night of a bang-up party arranged to disprove the haunted story connected with Miss Gwynne's home since her father was found dead in the "Blue Room." Donald Cook, a novelist, sets out to find MacWilliams, but he, too, disappears. Betty Kean, Grace McDonald and June Preisser, entertainers known as the "Jazzibelles," also decide to solve the puzzle without the help of the ever-present but non-effective police force. The tangle begins to unwind when the girls emerge from a secret passage with the culprit and Cook, who has discovered the necessary evidence to convict Andrew Toombes, family doctor, of the murder of MacWilliams as well as the murder of Miss Gwynne's father.

That is the story, but the trimmings of music and comedy, working exceptionally well, provide the real drawing card. And then there is a ghost, in a white derby, who appears frequently out of nowhere. Songs include "One Starry Night" and "The Boogie Woogie Woogie Man," both of which seem destined for popularity.

Leslie Goodwins directed from a clever screenplay by I. A. Diamond and Stanley Davis. Sam Freed, Jr., was musical director. Cast principals handle their roles very well; so do members of the supporting cast, including John Litel, Nella Walker, Ian Wolfe, Emmett Vogan and Frank Marlows. Frank Gross was associate producer.

HELEN MCNAMARA

Running time, 61 minutes. "G."* Release date, Dec. 1

"G" denotes general classification.

Critics Elect Price

New York Film Critics have elected Edgar Price of the Brooklyn *Citizen* chairman and Irene Thirer, of the New York *Post* secretary. The annual meeting will be held in December at which 'best' motion picture awards will be presented. The usual reception and radio program have been eliminated for this year.

Ross Federal Service, Inc.

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New York City

'Romance's' $20,000 Leads Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Nov. 15.—"American Romance" opened to big business at Loew's State with all indications of a big $20,000. "Since You Went Away" opened strong in its sixth and last week, heading for a $9,000 take at Loew's Stillman.

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,500).
"The Master Race" (RKO)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $22,100).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $3,200).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Sweet and Low Down" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Clyde Lucas orchestra, Paul Draper, Perry Como. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,400).
"American Romance" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE — (3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).

Roach Inactive

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 15.—Lt. Col. Hal Roach, producer, who has served with the Army Air Corps for nearly three years, has been placed on the inactive list. Lt. Col. Roach has returned here to look over the production situation before announcing his plans. Grace Rosenfield, Eastern representative for Roach is in New York reading material and looking over prospective talent.

Army Christmas Film

Marian Anderson, Leopold Stokowski, the Westminster Choir, and an all-service orchestra are featured in a Christmas film produced by the Army Pictorial Service for showing to the Armed Forces. The film, a short, is titled "Christmas, 1944."

Loop Better; $35,000 for 'SYWA' in 4th

CHICAGO, Nov. 15.—The Loop is back to normal again, with first runs still paced by "Since You Went Away," which rolled up a fine $35,000 in its fourth week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 16:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (80c-$1.10) 4th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, 35c-95c scale: $11,400).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c). Stage: Andrews Sisters and Revue, 2nd week. Gross: $45,000. (Average: $51,500).
"I'm from Arkansas" (PRC)
DOWNTOWN—(1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c). Stage: Ada Leonard and orchestra. Gross: $14,000.
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
"Murder in the Blue Room" (Univ.) 6 days, 2nd Loop week
"The Master Race" (RKO)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.) 1 day, 2nd Loop week
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-85c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c). Stage: Will Osborne and orchestra. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $24,000).
"The Master Race" (RKO)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.) 6 days
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO) 1 day
PALACE—(2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M) 1 day, 5th week
"An American Romance" (M-G-M) 6 days
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000).

K. C. Average or Better for Week

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 15.—The Orpheum led for the week with "The Princess and the Pirate" in its second week doing around $12,000. The Midland, with "Marriage Is a Private Affair" scored about $15,000 for the week. None of the theatres reported very exciting returns, but at least an above average mark held for most.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 14-17:

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $9,400).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"Strange Affair" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO) 2nd week
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).
"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
"Black Magic" (Mono.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $9,400).
"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600).

Von Urff to Gerstein

Lucille von Urff, former associate editor of *Look* magazine and recently with CBS Television, has joined Evelyn Gerstein Associates, publicists.

Production Is Steady, With 11 Off, 10 On

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 15.—Production holds steady as work finished on 11 features and 10 new ones started. Indications are that shooting will not be resumed on RKO's "Isle of the Dead" and 20th Century-Fox's "Bon Voyage" for some time. Total in work is 43.

The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "I Love a Mystery," "Our Wandering Daughters."

Started: "A Thousand and One Nights," with Evelyn Keyes, Cornel Wilde, Adele Jergens, Phil Silvers, an untitled "Crime Doctor," with Warner Baxter, Tillary Brooke, Robert Scott, Anthony Caruso, Stephen Crane.

Shooting: "Leave It to Blondie," "One Against Seven."

M-G-M

Finished: "There Were Three of Us" (formerly "Women's Army.")

Started: "Weekend at the Waldorf," with Ginger Rogers, Lana Turner, Walter Pidgeon, Van Johnson, Keenan Wynn.

Shooting: "Without Love," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Hold High the Torch," "Son of Lassie," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Finished: "The Cisco Kid Comes Through," "John Dillinger."

Started: "Make Way for Kelly," with Jackie Moran, Sidney Miller, Wanda McKay, Anthony Ward.

Paramount

Started: "The Virginian," with Joel McCrea, Sonny Tufts, Barbara Britton. "Scared Stiff" (Pine-Thomas), with Jack Haley, Ann Savage, Barton McLane, Veda Ann Borg, Roger Pryor.

Shooting: "The Lost Weekend," "The Love Letters," "The Affairs of Susan," "Duffy's Tavern."

PRC

Finished: "Fog Island."

Shooting: "Crime, Inc."

RKO

Finished: "Tarzan and the Amazons (Lesser).

Started: "Invisible Army," with John Wayne, Anthony Quinn, Alex Habier.

Shooting: "The Body Snatcher," "The Enchanted Cottage," "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Finished: "The Phantom Speaks."

Started: "Three's a Crowd," with Charles Gordon, Pamela Blake, John Eldridge, Virginia Brissac.

Shooting: "Jealousy," "Swingin' on a Rainbow" (formely "Moonlight and Roses"), "Earl Carroll Vanities."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "A Bell for Adano," "Molly, Bless Her," "Circumstantial Evidence," "A Royal Scandal," "Where Do We Go from Here?", "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe."

United Artists

Shooting: "A Walk in the Sun" (Bronston), "Blood on the Sun" (Cagney).

Universal

Finished: "Frisco Sal," "She Gets Her Man."

Started: "It's Never Too Late," with Noah Beery, Jr., Bonita Granville, Margaret Irving, Sarah Selby; "Romance, Inc.," with Allan Jones, Grace McDonald, Vivian Austin, Raymond Walburn.

Shooting: "Song of the Sarong," "Here Come the Co-Eds," "Salome—Where She Danced."

Warners

Finished: "God Is My Co-Pilot."

Shooting: "The Big Sleep," "Pillar to Post," "Nobody Lives Forever," "San Antonio."

'Jordan's' $8,000 Strong in 2nd Week

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—Doldrums seem to be hanging on in Washington, judging by estimated grosses for the current week. Although some theatres are doing better-than-average business, the figures are not hitting the highs that have become commonplace in this hectic city. "Here Comes Mr. Jordan," doing a repeat engagement at Warner's Metropolitan, should do an above-average $8,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 15:

"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-44c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Three Sailors, Gene Baylos. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,200).

"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. On stage: Tommy Wonder. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $19,700).

"The Master Race" (RKO)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,600).

"Here Comes Mr. Jordan" (Col.)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, return engagement. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,200).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,000).

'Reckless' with 'Tall' Gets Big $15,500

PROVIDENCE, Nov. 15.—Business here, after a couple of dull weeks, perked up somewhat. "Tall in the Saddle" rode to a nice $16,500 at the RKO-Albee.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 16:

"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $12,800).

"National Barn Dance" (Para.)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $10,500).

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"They Live in Fear" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,600. (Average: $17,700).

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,100).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"When the Lights Go On Again" (PRC)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,000).

"In From Arkansas" (PRC)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. On stage: Jack McCoy, Burton and Jeannette, Lord Ted Milford, Dobas Duo, Adair Dancers, Shorty Howell. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $7,000).

"End of the Road" (Rep.)
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (60c-75c) 3 days. On stage: Johnny Long's orchestra, Emery Twins and Clair, Charles Birch. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,500).

Harmon Leaves Todd

Lewis Harmon, press representative for Michael Todd for two years, has resigned, effective Nov. 25.

Para. and MGM Tie In 'Life' Choices

Each registering six feature selections in "Life" magazine's 'Movie-of-the-Week' designations from Jan. 1 to date, Paramount and M-G-M are tied for first spot. Twentieth Century-Fox is next with four selections, Warners got three, RKO, Columbia and Universal, two each, and United Artists, one.

Paramount was leading up to the current issue but M-G-M drew abreast with the current selection of "30 Seconds Over Tokyo."

Legion Classifies Ten New Pictures

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: Class A-1: "Firebrands of Arizona," Republic; "Oath of Vengeance," PRC; Class A-2: "Ever Since Venus," Columbia; "The Falcon in Hollywood," RKO; "Hi Beautiful," "Murder in the Blue Room," Universal; "Hollywood Canteen," Warners; "Naughty Marietta" (reissue), "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," M-G-M, and "Something for the Boys," 20th Century-Fox.

Guitry at Liberty

Press dispatches from Paris disclose that Sacha Guitry, French film actor, who was charged with collaborating with the Germans, has been given his provisional liberty, after a court found insufficient grounds for trial.

Philadelphia Up, Led by 'Laura's' $9,400 Above Par

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 15.—Business in downtown houses perked up with three major openings. "Laura," at the Fox Theatre, indicates $30,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 15-17:

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,600).

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $4,000).

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $18,000).

"Carclina Blues" (Col.) 6 days.
"Laura" (20th-Fox) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (40c-50c-85c-95c) Six days of vaudeville, including Hal McIntyre's band, Al Nobel, Ruth Gaylor, Johnnie Turnbull, The Merry Macs, Dick Buckley and Lyda Sue. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $27,600).

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $20,500).

"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $6,600).

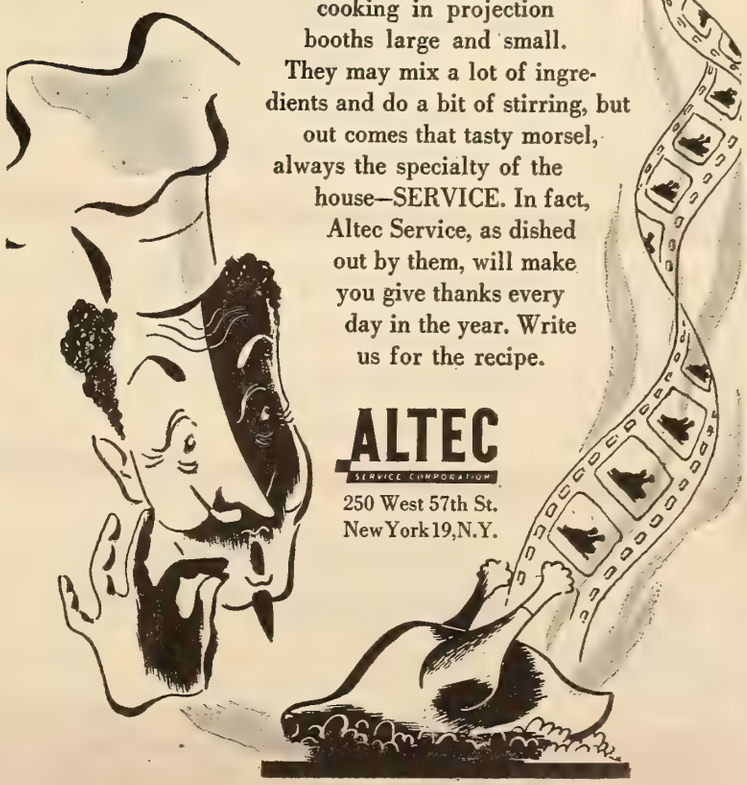
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (85c-$1.10) 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,800).

"The Conspirators" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $22,500).

"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $20,000).

"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,400).

talking about turkey . . .



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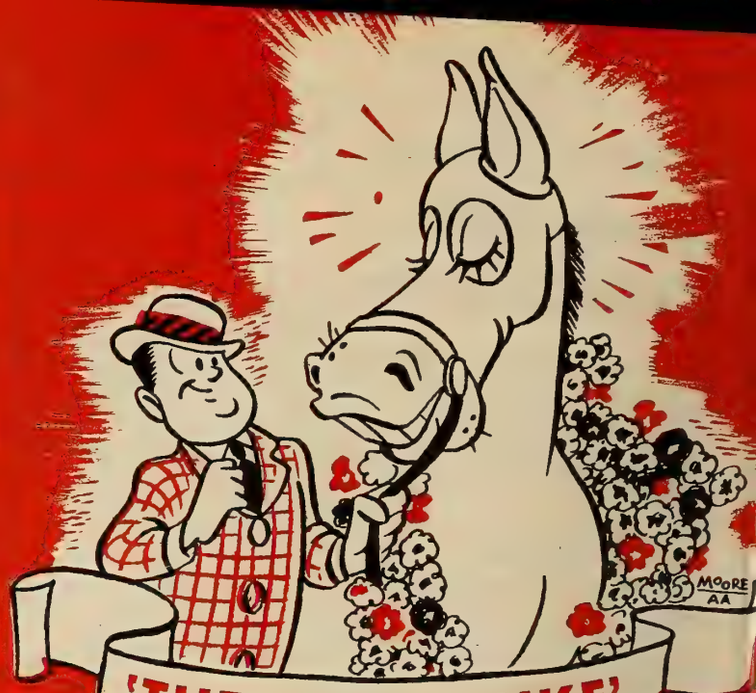

'THE GREAT MIKE'

Jimmy HANNEGHAN Hollywood REPORTER

"PRC has a box-office winner in 'The Great Mike'... *A delightful, human and warm story.*"

JOEL MURCOTT of DAILY VARIETY

"'THE GREAT MIKE'... is certain to gallop in a winner at the b. o. feedbox... *Entire cast turn in neat performances.*"

EDDY ECKELS Hollywood M. P. REVIEW

"Teeming with action and triple-threat sentiment... Thrills abound with every race."

IVAN SPEAR of BOX OFFICE

"Original story twists, fine performances, smoothly-paced direction ... *one of the company's best.*"

BOB WELSH of BOX OFFICE DIGEST

"The picture will rate high with PRC customers and secure many a booking beyond the company's present sales list."

RED KANN of M. P. HERALD

"Warm and friendly little film... Story values will be recognized for their familiarity, but they have registered before."

RALPH WILK of FILM DAILY

"'THE GREAT MIKE' is a heart-warming and thoroughly entertaining picture."

ED RAIDEN of SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVUE

"With plenty of innate taste and good judgment, the studio has brought home what looks like a sure winner."

GRACE KINGSLEY of L. A. TIMES

"The story adds up to a delightful tale which not only will please small boys but will carry oldsters back to their kidhood."

SAM LINDENSTEIN of EXHIBITOR

"*An unbeatable combination...* All the thrills of saddle racing."

PRC PRESENTS
STUART ERWIN in
"THE GREAT MIKE"
with Robt. (Buzzy) HENRY • Carl (Alfalfa) SWITZER
Pierre Watkin • Gwen Kenyon • Marian Martin and
"Mike" • "Corky" & "Mickey" • Original Story by
MARTIN MOONEY • Screen Play by RAYMOND L. SCHROCK
Produced by LEON FROMKESS • *Directed by* WALLACE W. FOX

PRC

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 96 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1944 | TEN CENTS

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Frozen Funds To Finance Paris Offices

U. S. Companies Would Transfer $3,000,000

Several distributors have applied for, and at least one has secured, a U. S. Treasury Department license authorizing transfer to Paris of rentals accumulated in North Africa in the past 18 months and which have been "blocked," the "frozen" funds to be used, at least partially, to help finance the physical reestablishment of American film companies in France, it was learned here yesterday.

The monies accumulated in that territory have been variously estimated by foreign department representatives to range upwards of 150,000,000 francs which, with the francs valued today at two cents, amount to at least $3,000,000.

At the same time, it was learned

(*Continued on page* 6)

Sutten to Africa in WB Expansion

Warners will soon start distribution in South Africa, with Jerome P. Sutten named manager for that territory, it was announced here yesterday by Joseph S. Hummel, vice-president of WB's International Corp.

Sutten is now in New York awaiting transportation to Johannesburg, where he will establish a branch office upon his arrival. He has been engaged in South African distribution for the past six years.

Nominate Porter to FCC; Seen Chairman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Paul A. Porter, former Columbia Broadcasting counsel and recently publicity director of the Democratic Campaign, was nominated today by President Roosevelt as a member of the Federal Communications Commission to succeed James L. Fly. While not so designated in the nomination he is expected to be named chairman.

As the President sent Porter's nomination to the Senate for approval, he asked Commissioner Ewell K. Jett, who until last February was chief engineer for the FCC to act temporarily as chairman.

Sixth Drive Opens Today

President Roosevelt will inaugurate the Sixth War Loan Drive today, three days ahead of the official opening, by pressing a button on his desk in Washington, which will automatically light the Statue of Liberty reproduction in Times Square here. More than 1,200 theatre managers, owners, circuit heads, branch and exchange managers, film executives, borough presidents, naval officers, Treasury Department and civic officials will have gathered at the statue, following a breakfast in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Astor, which will be sponsored by Malcolm Kingsberg, of the New York Motion Picture War Activities Committee.

Scheduled to appear were Harry Brandt, Jack Cohn, Max Cohen,

(*Continued on page* 5)

Hirliman to Produce Here and on Coast

George A. Hirliman's new International Theatrical and Television Corp., formed recently with several subsidiaries, will concentrate on the 16mm. market, Hirliman told MOTION PICTURE DAILY this week before leaving for the Coast to arrange, during a month's stay, for production in Hollywood. Hirliman said he has purchased two 16mm. companies, one of

(*Continued on page* 6)

$17,000,000 in Bonds To Loew's, National

Loew's yesterday completed the corporate purchase of $10,000,000 in Sixth War Loan bonds, David Bernstein, treasurer of Loew's announced here, and National Theatres and subsidiaries corporately purchased $7,000,000, Charles Skouras, president of National, announced.

Skouras told Neil Agnew, in charge of bond sales to film companies in the East, that National's buy was the 'opening shot'.

William G. Formby Joins *M. P. Herald*

William G. Formby has joined the editorial staff of *Motion Picture Herald* as Field Editor, it was announced yesterday. Formby, for the past 12 years editor of *Boxoffice*, had been associated with that publication since 1928. Prior to that he was engaged in daily newspaper work, having served successively on the editorial staffs of the *Amarillo* (Texas) *News-Globe* and the *Daily Oklahoman*, Oklahoma City.

During his more than 16 years of motion picture trade journalism, Formby operated in a number of widely separated key cities throughout the country, attaining an extensive knowledge of the operations of all branches of the industry and an understanding of regional, as well as national, operating conditions and problems.

First Soviet Review of U. S. Film Sent to 'Daily'

A review of M-G-M's "Song of Russia," which opened recently in Moscow, was cabled to MOTION PICTURE DAILY *by Aram Khachaturyan, Soviet composer.*

This is one of the first criticisms of an American motion picture ever to come out of Russia. "Song of Russia" is one of the most recent Hollywood films purchased by the Soviet Cinema Commission.

The cable was sent direct from Moscow to the DAILY. *There is no ministry of information in the USSR, reportedly by agreement between the U. S., Britain and Russia. Therefore, the cable must have cleared through the Soviet Foreign Office before it was filed.*

Khachaturyan is a member of the Union of Soviet Composers and is known in American music circles for his First Piano Concerto, First Violin Concerto, ballet suite, "Gayenne," and his Second Symphony. The following is his cabled criticism of "Song of Russia."

By ARAM KHACHATURYAN

Moscow, Nov. 16

Recently I have had occasion to see several Hollywood productions and, being a musician, such films, for example, as "Yankee Doodle Dandy" have had special interest for me.

As to "Song of Russia," we all waited for this film with greatest impatience, knowing that the action is laid in our homeland and that much of the

(*Continued on page* 5)

IATSE Delays Organization Of Managers

Awaiting WLB Ruling on Right To Unionization

The IATSE has no immediate plans to issue charters to theatre managers' unions, nor is the idea likely to receive further consideration until it is definitely decided by the War Labor Board that managers are eligible for unionization. The issue is expected to be forced to the floor at the American Federation of Labor national convention which opens in New Orleans on Monday. This was learned here yesterday from an IATSE official on the eve of the departure of the IATSE delegation for New Orleans.

Among others, Eugene Atkinson, business manager of IATSE, Chicago projectionists' Local 110, is expected to attend the convention to press for a charter for a theatre managers' lo-

(*Continued on page* 2)

Community Groups At MPPDA Meet

Will H. Hays, MPPDA president, was host at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel yesterday to a group of leaders associated with educational, civic, patriotic, religious, international, cultural, youth and recreational interests. They met with industry members for an exchange of views on community problems. The following were guests at the conference:

F. McNeill Ackland, Motion Picture Distributors Association of Australia; Roger Albright, MPPDA; James Allen, Warner Bros.; Mrs. W. H. Andrews, Brooklyn Motion Picture Council; Dr. James R. Angell,

(*Continued on page* 5)

Silverman, Stern Buy Spiegel Stock

CHICAGO, Nov. 16.—Eddie Silverman and Emil Stern, president and vice-president, respectively, of the Essaness Circuit here, have purchased 85 shares of the corporation's stock, for $211,789, held by Mrs. Kathryn Spiegel, widow of Sidney M. Spiegel, Jr., who was secretary-treasurer of the circuit.

Spiegel's estate which includes 290 other Essaness shares, will amount to more than $1,000,000. The estate previously had been estimated at $500,000.

Personal Mention

NORMAN RYDGE, managing director of Greater Union Theatres, Australia, will leave New York for the West Coast today, en route to Sydney following a three months' visit in this country.

•

FRED JACK, United Artists Southern district manager, left New York last night for Dallas. JOE UNGER, Western division manager, is attending St. Louis conferences.

•

CHARLES SKOURAS and R. H. McCULLOUGH, National Theatres executives, will leave New York tonight, the former for Denver and the latter for Los Angeles.

•

EDDIE COHEN, 20th Century-Fox general supervisor in South America, is here for conferences with MURRAY SILVERSTONE, foreign distribution vice-president.

•

FRANCIS ALSTOCK, head of the CIAA motion picture division, is scheduled to arrive in New York from the Coast today.

•

GUS KING, president of the Capital Theatre Supply Co., is on a business trip from Atlanta to Memphis and Chicago.

•

JACK GOLDSTEIN, Vanguard Eastern exploitation manager, has returned here from the Coast.

•

SAUL KRUGMAN has rejoined the EDWARD J. PESKAY staff here after an honorable discharge from the Navy.

•

MIKE HAVAS, RKO Radio Venezuela manager, arrived yesterday for a home office visit.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, will return to New York today from Boston.

•

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal advertising and publicity director, is scheduled to arrive from the Coast today.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Western and Southern division sales manager, will leave Chicago for St. Louis tonight.

•

RALPH McCOY, Warner Southern district sales manager, has returned to Atlanta from New York.

•

JULES FIELDS, 20th Century-Fox publicity manager, left New York yesterday for Chicago.

Blumenstock to Chicago

Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager for 20th Century-Fox, left here yesterday for Chicago to conduct a meeting of field exploiteers and set promotions for Central and Midwestern premieres of "Winged Victory." Army Air Force representatives will also attend the meeting, which will be held at the Hotel Blackstone.

Sign Film Editors Pact Here Today

Contracts are expected to be signed here today between IATSE Motion Picture Film Editors Union, Local 771, having jurisdiction over film editors and librarians employed in New York by the newsreel companies and short subject producers, and the film companies. Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, concluded negotiations here Wednesday.

The agreement sets up eight job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales, ranging from $40 to $130 a week. Wage increases will be made within the classification wage ranges if the War Labor Board approves the agreement which will be submitted immediately after signing. It marks the first contract for the workers and will run to Dec. 31, 1945 with wage increases being retroactive to Aug. 15, 1944.

David Halper of the law firm of Matthew M. Levy, IATSE attorney and Louis Krouse, IATSE general secretary-treasurer, aided in the negotiations.

Coast Guild Answers Political Charges

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 16.—Attorneys for the Screen Office Employes Guild yesterday filed an answer in Superior Court here to the suit brought by five members to prevent the expenditure of Guild funds for political purposes.

The Guild asserted that the funds were used exclusively to defeat Proposition 12 in the recent election and that the members did not act for themselves, but on the prompting of political interests in the Presidential campaign.

MGM District Sales Meeting Under Way

CINCINNATI, Nov. 16.—William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice president and general sales manager, announced on his arrival here today that he would be host to all local exhibitors at a special luncheon tomorrow at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel. Some 15 other home office employes arrived for the midseason sales and district managers' meeting with Rodgers. William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation, is due tomorrow. Edwin C. Booth, Cincinnati manager, in charge of the exhibitor luncheon, expects over 100 to be present.

MGM Men End Visit

William B. Zoellner, Atlanta, and Louis C. Ingram, Memphis, the last two M-G-M branch managers scheduled to visit the home office for a week, will arrive from their respective territories Dec. 4. Frank Hensler, Kansas City head, who was in town last week, has returned to his headquarters.

Fete Burns and Allen

Columbia Broadcasting will hold a reception for George Burns and Gracie Allen in the Hotel Berkshire this afternoon. The pair are touring the East on behalf of the Sixth War Loan.

IATSE Delaying Drive On Managers

(Continued from page 1)

cal from the AFL, having failed thus far to secure one from the IATSE. It is not considered likely, however, that the AFL executive board will rule on a managers' union when the matter is still pending before the IATSE executive boards, to which it was referred last May.

Although the New York State Labor Relations Board has acknowledged the right of theatre managers to organize and his certified the Motion Picture Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild as their bargaining agent at RKO, contract negotiations between RKO and the Guild have been broken off and the case is presently before the New York State Board of Mediation. Should the mediation board fail to resolve the dispute, the case will probably be taken before the War Labor Board.

Representatives of the "IA" who will attend the AFL convention include: Richard F. Walsh, international president; Louis Krouse, general secretary-treasurer; Thomas V. Green, business agent of Stagehands' Local 21, Newark; M. J. Mungovan, business agent of Theatre Employes Local B-90, Rochester, and D. T. Broch of Projectionists' Local 160, Cleveland.

ITOA Bill To Await U. S. Decree Action

The I.T.O.A. of New York decided at a meeting here yesterday to await action by the Department of Justice on the consent decree before making any move to press for legislation in New York to set up a film board to rule on industry practices. The proposed bill lists 31 trade practices which would be outlawed in New York if enacted.

Rogers Coming East

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 16.—Budd Rogers left here today for New York to confer with United Artists executives on exploitation for "Delightfully Dangerous," produced by Charles R. Rogers. Rogers will also scout for talent to be used in his brother's next production, "My Wild Irish Rose," based on the life of Chauncey Olcott.

400 At ATS Video Meet

Four hundred members of the American Television Society, and their guests, including film industry representatives, attended a symposium on the subject "30,000,000 Television Sets—When and Where?," held at the Museum of Modern Art auditorium here last night.

Release 'Canteen' Dec. 30

Warners has set Dec. 30 as national release date for "Hollywood Canteen." The world premiere will be held Dec. 22 at the Strand here and at Warners' Hollywood, Downtown and Wiltern Theatres in Hollywood and Los Angeles.

STARTS TOMORROW
Hollywood's Pan-American Musical Romance!
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647
REPUBLIC THEATER
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
CARY GRANT
'None But the Lonely Heart'
Miss Ethel Barrymore

Paramount presents
PAULETTE GODDARD SONNY TUFTS
in
"I LOVE A SOLDIER"
In Person
TONY PASTOR and his Band
BERT WHEELER
MARION HUTTON
HAL LEROY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BARBARA STANWYCK
FRED MacMURRAY
Edward G. ROBINSON
in Paramount's
'DOUBLE INDEMNITY'
IN PERSON
JOE CHARLIE SMITH & DALE
GENE BAYLOS
EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION
The RED CAPS

VICTORIA
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
20 CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
WILSON
IN TECHNICOLOR

June Haver - Dick Haymes
Monty Woolley
'IRISH EYES ARE SMILING'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
Plus On Stage —
RAY BOLGER - GRACIE BARRIE
WALTER NILSSON - CARR BROTHERS
BUY MORE BONDS
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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"IT SHOWS US
THE KIND OF
MEN WHO WILL
FOREVER GUARD
THE
WAY
AHEAD"
— Quentin Reynolds

DAVID NIVEN

THE WAY AHEAD

OVERWHELMING DRAMA THAT WILL LIVE LONG AFTER THE LAST GUN HAS BEEN FIRED!

Suspensefully directed by CAROL REED who made "Night Train"

G. C. F. Presents DAVID NIVEN in THE WAY AHEAD with Raymond Huntley, Billy Hartnell, Stanley Holloway · Foreword by Quentin Reynolds
Directed by Carol Reed · Screen play by Eric Ambler, Peter Ustinov · Produced by Norman Walker, John Sutro · A Two Cities Film

20th CENTURY-FOX RELEASE

Community Groups Consider Problems At MPPDA Meet

(Continued from page 1)

National Broadcasting Company; Mrs. Jesse Bader, Council of Protestant Church Women; Miss Hettie Gray Baker, 20th Century-Fox; Mrs. Norman M. L. Bergh, Queens Motion Picture Council; George Borthwick, MPPDA; Howard S. Braucher, National Recreation Association; Joseph I. Breen, MPPDA; Jack Bryson, MPPDA; Chancellor Harry Woodburn Chase, New York University; Jack Cohn, Columbia Pictures; Dr. Edgar Dale, National Congress of Parents and Teachers; Malcolm Davis, Carnegie Foundation for International Peace, Division of Education and Intercourse, and President Edmund E. Day, Cornell University.

Also: Arthur H. DeBra, MPPDA; Irvin E. Deer, MPPDA; Mrs. LaFell Dickinson, General Federation of Women's Clubs; Roy Disney, Walt Disney Productions; Mrs. Catherine Edwards, Parents' Magazine; Charles Einfeld, Warner Bros.; Jeannette W. Emrich, MPPDA; Miss Marilla Freeman, American Library Association; Mrs. Guy P. Gannett, National Federation of Music Clubs; Mrs. Adelaide Gescheidt, Film Music Committee; Dr. Florence Hale, The Grade Teacher; Earle W. Hammons, Educational Films Corp.; Lee F. Hanmer, Russell Sage Foundation; Francis S. Harmon, War Activities Committee; Helen Havener, International Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs; Duke Hickey, MPPDA; Hal Hode, Columbia Pictures; Captain Hampton W. Howard, American Red Cross, and Judge Stephen S. Jackson, New York City Child Crime Prevention Bureau.

Others Present

Also: Mrs. Mildred Kaplan, Parents Motion Picture Group; Dr. Alice V. Keliher, New York University Film Library; Austin C. Keough, Paramount; Claude Lee, Paramount; Mrs. Doris Warner LeRoy, Educational Motion Pictures; Mrs. Harry Lilly, Eastern Preview Committee of General Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. James F. Looram, International Federation of Catholic Alumnae; Mrs. Valentine E. Macey, Jr., National Girl Scouts; Walter T. Brown, American Legion; William F. Crockett, M.P.T.O.A. of Virginia; Monsignor James Griffiths, Military Ordinariate of the Archdiocese of New York; Monsignor John J. McClafferty, National Legion of Decency; Dr. Mark A. May, Institute of Human Relations of Yale University; Carl A. Milliken, MPPDA; Mrs. LeRoy Montgomery, Eastern Preview Committee of the Daughters of the American Revolution; Dr. Paul Mort, Teachers College, Columbia University, and J. J. O'Connor, Universal.

Also: Mrs. Ruth Ottaway, National Council of Women; Dr. Daniel A. Poling, The Christian Herald; Mrs. Daniel A. Poling, Christian Herald Reviewing Committee; Mrs. Wm. H. Pouch, National Society D.A.R.; N. Peter Rathvon, RKO; J. Robert Rubin, Loew's; Dr. Howard M. Savage, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; Monsignor William Scully, Department of Education of the Archdiocese of New York; President George N. Shuster, Hunter College; Mrs. E. D. Snow, Jr., Scarsdale Motion Picture Council; Mrs. Constance Sporborg, New York State Federation of Women's Clubs; J. Edward Sproul, National Council, Y.M.C.A.; President Robert Gordon Sproul, University of California, Los Angeles; H. M. Stanley, American Grange; A. L. Threlkeld, Superintendent of Schools, Montclair, N. J.; Mrs. Teresa Wells, Good Housekeeping Magazine; Dr. James E. West, Boy Scouts of America, and Gordon S. White, MPPDA.

U. A. Gets 'Guest Wife'

A budget of $1,750,000 has been set for the Sam Wood directed picture "Guest Wife," which will be produced by Jack Skirball, it was announced yesterday after the U.A. board of directors approved a releasing deal on the production. Shooting on the picture, which will star Claudette Colbert and Don Ameche, will start next week, it was stated.

First Soviet Review of U. S. Film Sent to 'Daily'

(Continued from page 1)

music of our beloved Tchaikovsky and modern Soviet composers was incorporated in the picture.

Naturally, we were curious to see how you Americans interpreted the events of the first period of the war on Soviet territory and how the cast and musicians, headed by such esteemed directors as Joseph Pasternak and Gregory Ratoff, composer Herbert Stothart and conductor Albert Coates, tackled many difficult problems that the production of such a picture entailed.

I must say I liked the film. There was a certain noble and idyllic quality about it that spoke for the warm feeling that is drawing the American and Russian people together.

It appears to me that it was a particularly good idea to make it a musical film, as that gave the producers a wide opportunity to make use of the works of the best composers.

MUSIC, in its subtle way, is one of the most effective agents in disclosing national traits of people. "The Great Waltz" was particularly a great success in our country because of its musical charm.

In "Song of Russia" we find that Tchaikovsky's music has helped to elevate the film to great and noble heights. Robert Taylor as John Meredith and Susan Peters as Nadya Stepanova give superb recitals in their "Song of Russia" duet.

Robert Taylor is to be congratulated on his performance in the picture. He is nowhere condescending or sugary, but throughout he plays with restraint and innate tact. His acting is natural and convincing, both in the intimate scenes and in the working atmosphere of the orchestra rehearsals.

Speaking of understanding, the impact of the war on Russia is particularly effective, I found, in the picture. One of the partisans, when John Meredith looks fixedly at him, assures Meredith simply that he is one of many. This little bit in the film throws a powerful searchlight on the daily heroism of the Soviet people.

Nadya Stepanova, the heroine of the film, is also one of many. There are indeed thousands of Russian girls like her who took up their post in battle as soon as the hour struck. Susan Peters, who impersonates Nadya, gives a laudable portrayal of a simple and charming young Soviet girl of musical and artistic nature.

SCENES where Nadya meets John Meredith are touching and tender and do credit to Susan Peters' acting. I must admit, however, that I was unfavorably impressed with the scenes of the tractor ploughing, where I think both the director and the actress forgot that driving a tractor is hard work. An attractively tied kerchief and soft ankle are all very well, but it takes more than that to sow a Victory harvest.

Nadya made me think of our musicians such as Rosa Tamarkina, well-known pianist and prize winner of an international piano contest and daughter of factory workers; Nadaya Kogan, my adopted violinist, who began giving concert recitals at eight; and Muravlev, 17-year-old composer from the Sverdlovsk Centre, who was recently accepted into the Composers Union. I could cite many other examples illustrating the effective assistance rendered by the Government in encouraging the development of musical talent.

In fact, I myself, owe my rise to the Government's support. I never took private lessons. While at college my gift for composing music was marked. I was transferred to the State Conservatory. I'm bringing in all this in order to demonstrate that situations, despite their unusualness, are quite plausible.

Only certain episodes suffer from misconception, as, for example, the portrayal of the wedding on the collective farm done in the manner of a stylized ballet. Another thing—almost throughout the picture, I noticed that Caucasians, my compatriots, are shown as brunets with black moustaches, which isn't at all true to type.

IT gave me the greatest pleasure to see Albert Coates on the screen. We all remember his sojourn in Moscow, and what a pity that it was so brief. I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to thank Albert Coates for his fruitful work in popularizing Russian classical music.

To Albert Coates and Herbert Stothart, whose operetta "Rose Marie" is widely popular in the USSR, I wish to extend my deep gratitude.

But there are just one or two friendly reproaches. On the whole, I think as regards the music and directing, the film is an amazingly daring and praiseworthy piece of work. I am greatly impressed, for example, with how two strains of Tchaikovsky's second piano concerto, which by the way was splendidly rendered in a Russian panorama, were unfolded. At the beginning of the picture, I was worried as to how the transition from peacetime to events of the war would be effected. In my opinion, both directors and musicians tackled the task brilliantly. The piano concerto conveys impending danger.

In interpreting Tchaikovsky's symphonic works, Albert Coates is his usual brilliant self. However, in certain places, the rhythm and character of the music is distorted, evidently for the benefit of the action. I don't really think there was any necessity for doing this, nor do I think it was good taste to perform alongside Tchaikovsky the Pokrass song in the restaurant. During the war, many gifted composers have come to the fore, for example, Soloviev-sedoi and V. Zakharov, conductor of the Pyantnitsky Chorus of National Songs, both Stalin prize winners.

I THINK the film would have benefited all the more if the rich reservoir of songs born of this great patriotic war was drained and if they were rendered not only through choruses, but symphonically developed as well. Music helps to promote friendship among nations.

"Song of Russia" is a tribute to the cultural collaboration of the American and Russian people.

Sixth Drive Opens Today For Industry

(Continued from page 1)

William Crockett, William E. Cotter, Ned E. Depinet, Jay Emanuel, Gus Eyssell, S. H. Fabian, Frederick W. Gehle, Leonard Goldenson, Frank Damis, Will H. Hays, John Hertz, Jr., Francis Harmon, Malcolm Kingsberg, Harry Lowenstein, Charles C. Moskowitz, John O'Connor, Herman Robbins, Spyros Skouras, George J. Schaefer, James Sauter, Walter Titus, Major L. E. Thompson, Richard Walsh, David Weinstock and Nathan Yamins. Talks are scheduled for Brandt, Depinet, Fabian, Hertz and Yamins, as well as several war heroes and war correspondents. Following the breakfast, the entire group is scheduled to assemble for the dedicatory ceremonies of the reproduction of the Statue of Liberty in Times Square. Entertainers from all branches of the show world will assist in the dedication which will be broadcast over WMCA. Representatives of all branches of the Armed Services will also appear.

Film Stars Leave Coast For State 6th Aid

Mobilization of film stars, chosen on a basis of previous war work, will leave Hollywood this week to participate in the Sixth War Loan Drive. Harry Brandt, national chairman, announced that Ingrid Bergman will be assigned Minnesota; Alexander Knox and Linda Darnell will go to Pennsylvania; George Murphy to Massachusetts; Janet Blair to South Carolina and Georgia; Franchot Tone to New York and Paul Lukas to Ohio.

In most of the states, the stars will become honorary co-chairmen of the drive, will occupy desks and be assigned bond selling duties. Other stars will be named from day to day as the drive progresses.

Andrew Smith Heads 20th-Fox Bond Drive

Andrew W. Smith, Jr., has been appointed chairman of the 20th Century-Fox company drive for the Sixth War Loan.

The company will again award prizes, totaling $1,400 in bonds to holders of lucky numbers. The drawing will be held at the conclusion of the drive.

'Together' Set for Music Hall, Nov. 23

"Together Again" has been set to open at Radio City Music Hall on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23, G. S. Eyssell, managing director of the Music Hall, announced yesterday.

While it is recognized that "Mrs. Parkington," the current Music Hall occupant, could have continued beyond a fifth week, on the basis of current business, the theatre's crowded booking schedule makes necessary its withdrawal. M-G-M's "National Velvet" is to follow "Together Again" into the Hall, and Columbia's "A Song to Remember" is considered the likely entry thereafter.

Review Board Calls For Free Screen

The National Board of Review celebrated its 35th anniversary yesterday with a meeting at the Hotel Pennsylvania here, attended by over 500 persons, at which time the Board adopted a resolution stating, "The Board reasserts its conviction that the motion picture must enjoy the same freedom of expression as the press, and that screen censorship, as a violation of one of the freedoms for which this war is being fought, should be opposed, limited and abolished."

The Board also congratulated the industry on its war efforts. Speakers included Quincy Howe, president; Charles S. Steinberg, Warners; Dr. Francis D. Tyson, University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Charles C. Marshall, director, Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn, and Prof. Sawyer Falk, Syracuse University.

Rosenwald Killed

Staff Sergeant Henry S. Rosenwald, 38, formerly associated with Martin J. Lewis in the operation of the Thalia Theatre and Fifth Avenue Playhouse here and the Cinema, Detroit, was killed in action on Oct. 27 in Italy. He was attached to the Fifth Army. Services will be held Sunday at Universal Chapel here.

Joseph Varnell Dies

PIEDMONT, Ala., Nov. 16.—Joseph Varnell, said to be the oldest exhibitor operating in Alabama, died here following a heart attack. Varnell owned and operated the Princess.

Meaken to Cincinnati As RKO Assistant

CINCINNATI, Nov. 16.—RKO has promoted Hardie Meaken, former manager of Keith's in Washington, to assistant to Arthur Frudenfeld, RKO division manager here. The position has been vacant since Joseph Goetz, now a major in the Air Service Command, enlisted.

Other RKO changes include the naming of Florence Kipp, short subjects booker, to manager of the Lyric and to supervise the Family, in addition to her booking duties. E. J. Hogan has been transferred from the Family to the Lyric, replacing Mary Holbrook who has been sent to the Shubert.

Hirliman to Produce Here and on Coast

(*Continued from page* 1)

which has 48,466 reels of film on hand. He will not reveal their identities, until the stock is actually turned over to him.

Hirliman left first for Columbus, and then points West; accompanied by Alfred W. Crown, vice-president of the new corporation. The pair will make stops in most large cities on their way out to Los Angeles, taking five weeks to set up agency offices.

Gottschalk Dies at 86

LONDON, Nov. 16. — Ferdinand Gottschalk, 86, playwright and character actor whose many screen appearances included a role in "The Sign of the Cross, current Paramount reissue, died last Friday, according to an announcement made here today.

Get Frozen Funds For Paris Financing

(*Continued from page* 1)

that censorship of films in North Africa, which was scheduled to be removed from Algiers to Paris, will now be retained in Algiers until Feb., 1945, according to the film division of the French Ministry of Information here.

Although it is believed that other companies will be able to secure the necessary license from the Treasury Department empowering them to transfer funds to Paris, the main obstacle remaining for such a move is approval of the French government.

Stewart a Vanguard Producer-Director

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 16.—Paul Stewart, radio producer-director and stage and screen player, has been signed by Vanguard Films to join Dore Schary in an associate capacity and later to produce and direct. His first assignment will be "So Little Time."

Name Variety Delegates

ATLANTA, Nov. 16.—At Variety's meeting to be held in Washington, D. C., Nov. 23-24-25, Atlanta Tent 27 will be represented by William K. Jenkins, national canvasman, Jack Dumestre, Jr., chief barker, and Ralph McCoy.

Neilan 20th Associate

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 16. — Marshall Neilan was today signed by 20th Century-Fox as an associate producer in the Bryan Foy unit and given "Days Are Dark" as his first production.

Harley Proposes Films Teach Nazis

LONDON, Nov. 16.—A proposal submitted to the industry by Francis Harley, 20th Century-Fox's British managing director, that the United Nations confer now on how best to assist in the re-education of Nazi youth with motion pictures was acclaimed here today by the general council of the Kinematograph Renters Society.

It recommended that a joint committee of distributors, exhibitors and producers be convened, to speedily confer with the U. S. MPPDA and its counterpart in other countries.

The KRS discussion also disclosed a feeling that the various governments should also consult with the industry as to the best means to prevent a possible secret Nazi postwar production of films. There was general agreement that swift action was necessary "before inexperienced military officers tackle the task themselves."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday reported from Hollywood that Darryl Zanuck plans to produce a documentary-type of feature which would demonstrate to the German people that their military forces were not supermen.

Loew's Gives $75,000

Loew's has donated $75,000 to the National War Fund, it was reported here yesterday by David Bernstein, treasurer of the company.

Carnival gaiety reaches a climax of excitement and thrills as Tito Guizar and Virginia Bruce, stars of Republic's "Brazil," sing the song of the century, "Rio de Janeiro," written by the celebrated composer, Ary Barroso.

ADVT.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 97 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Industry's 6th Starts in 16,000 Houses

N. Y. Rally Tonight Will Climax Regional Meets

The industry's Sixth War Loan Drive is officially under way.

Today the country's more than 16,000 showmen, plus distributors, service and equipment companies, are beginning the job of putting over the Treasury Department's quota of $2,500,000,000 in "E" bond sales between now and Dec. 16, as part of the overall objective of $14,000,000,000.

Now fully mobilized following a series of 19 regional key city meetings, attended by members of the national committee and more than 6,000 showmen, "the industry has been solidly moulded into one

(*Continued on page* 8)

Find Releases At New Low

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—Feature releases from the eight major companies this year will constitute a new low of 259, an Allied States bulletin just released here asserts. The total represents an average of 32.4 releases per company.

Following is Allied's tabulation of releases: Columbia, 41; M-G-M, 34; Paramount, 31; RKO, 40; 20th Century-Fox, 27: United Artists, 18; Universal, 49; Warners, 19.

The bulletin charges that the fewer

(*Continued on page* 7)

Capital Program Set By Variety Clubs

Variety Clubs of America reported at the weekend that 19 film industry leaders and 16 Government officials and heads of the war services will attend its Humanitarian Award dinner at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, next Friday.

Among those who will attend from

(*Continued on page* 7)

Cancel 'Bernadette' Because of Union

Chicago, Nov. 19.—Demands made by the IATSE projectionists union here for the employment of an extra operator during the run of "Song of Bernadette" have resulted in a number of playdate cancellations from both independents and circuits.

Raw Stock Estimate For '45 Ready Soon

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—Raw stock estimates for the first quarter of 1945 are now coming in to the photographic section of the War Production Board here, and within a few days it will be known whether requirements for the first three months will show the hoped-for reduction, permitting the industry to 'breathe easier.' Claims of the Army, Navy, lend-lease and foreign economic administrations already have been filed.

Meanwhile, it was said here yesterday by Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the section, that the current situation remains unchanged and his office so far has been able to meet all approved demands. "However," he emphasized, "the situation is no easier, and there are no indications that it will improve in the immediate future." So far, he said, his office is without information as to how soon the film-making plants taken over in France and Holland will get into operation.

War Materials Slump Delays Equipment

Raw Stock Manufacture Also Hit by Manpower

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—Failure of war industries to supply military needs in required quantities may delay indefinitely all plans for increased production of apparatus and equipment for the motion picture industry, it was indicated here yesterday.

Within the past week, it has been disclosed that military op-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Hollywood Council Hiring Executive

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 19.—The Hollywood Council of Guilds and Unions voted at the weekend to establish offices and employ a permanent executive secretary in order to expedite a program which includes prominently preparation of plans for reemployment of war veterans.

Approaching reemployment from a new angle following unfruitful correspondence with employer groups, the HCGU is contacting the Government to determine the extent to which its postwar film plans may be counted on to furnish employment.

Five Million Television Sets in 5 Postwar Years

Within five years after war restrictions are lifted, th U. S. will have 5,000,000 television sets, worth $750,000,000, based on a roughly approximated schedule of 250,000 receivers the first full year of production; 500,000, the second; 900,000 in the third; 1,500,000 in the fourth and 2,000,000 in the fifth, according to Ernest R. Vogel, vice-president in charge of sales for Farnsworth Television and Radio Corp.

During the same five years, Vogel predicted, there will be built, installed and operating some 500 television transmitters. As evidence, he cited the fact that between the years 1926 and 1930, $1,500,000,000 worth of radio equipment was sold and a radio set was installed in one out of every two homes in the United States. His television receiver estimates are based on only one set for every six homes. He recalled that in 1930, when radio was still not perfect, few would have estimated that 65,000,000 radio sets would be sold by 1940.

Television will arrive more quickly than is currently expected, according to Vogel, but the time of its arrival depends on how soon manufacturing can start.

PRC a National Distributor In Ten Months

Youngs Are Determined On Speedy Expansion

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

The Young interests controlling Pathe Laboratories, Inc., and through Pathe, PRC Pictures, are understood to be determined to build PRC to the status of a national distributor by Sept. 1, 1945.

With this in view they are said to have given the management, headed by Leon Fromkess, PRC president, the "green light" to acquire the exchanges of franchise holders, or otherwise establish branches in every exchange city in the country, "regardless of cost," MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned over the weekend.

The Young interests in Pathe Laboratories-PRC include the brothers Kenneth M. Young, chairman of

(*Continued on page* 7)

Decree Four Years Old

The industry consent decree is four years old today. On Nov. 20 1940, Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard in U. S. District Court here signed the order entering the decree between Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners with the Department of Justice. All provisions of the decree except the trade-showing and blocks-of-five clauses became effective immediately with the entry of the decree. The latter two became effective with the opening of the 1941-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Arthur St. Louis Suit Is Off to Dec. 9

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 19.—Harry Arthur's suit here, seeking an injunction against the Department of Justice's consent decree, has been postponed until Dec. 9. Hearing on the Rosecran arbitration case, cause of the action, was also postponed to Jan. 15.

6th Drive Is On! What Are YOU Doing to Win the War?

Personal Mention

MATTHEW J. FOX, Universal vice-president, has been promoted from captain to major. Fox, now in the East, entered the Army as a private, and was overseas more than a year.

•

ROBERT SCHLESS, Paramount International division manager for Continental Europe, will arrive in Hollywood today accompanied by ELIAS LAPINERE, publicity and advertising head for the European division.

•

PHIL WILLIAMS, March of Time advertising and publicity director, and WILLIAM CLARK, short subject sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, returned at the weekend from a Midwest trip.

•

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, will enter the Fifth Avenue Hospital here today for a routine physical checkup.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warners' general sales manager, left yesterday for a tour of the Southern territory.

•

ARTHUR REEF, associate managing editor of *Parade*, will leave for the Coast on Nov. 23.

•

WILLIAM MCCORMICK of M-G-M's publicity department will return today from Washington.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic president, will return here today from Dallas.

•

NICHOLAS NAPOLI, president of Artkino Pictures, left New York at the weekend for the Midwest.

•

SAM COSLOW is in New York from the Coast for a weeks' stay.

20th-Fox Meetings Here on Dec. 4-6

Twentieth Century-Fox will hold Midseason sales meetings at the Astor Hotel here, Dec. 4-6, with Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales, conducting the sessions. Division, district and branch managers from both American and Canadian exchanges will attend. Western sales manager W. C. Gehring, Eastern sales manager A. W. Smith, Jr., and Central sales head L. J. Schlaifer, will be on hand.

Other home office executives who will attend include: president Spyros Skouras, executive vice-president W. C. Michel, Hal Horne, director of advertising and publicity; Charles Schlaifer, his assistant; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to general sales manager W. J. Kupper; William Clark, short subjects manager; Paul Terry and Harvey Day of Terrytoons.

Trop Back in N. Y.

J. D. Trop has returned from Hollywood after completing arrangements for the production of "The Red Wagon" for America Film Center.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

AS usual, it was a great crowd that packed Yankee Stadium and spilled over into temporary stands in front of the bleachers on that warm Armistice Day afternoon a week back on which Army took the measure of Notre Dame for the sixth time in 31 attempts. The game itself was devoid of the color and excitement of the crowd. In fact, all that was available to us to break the monotony of Army scoring plays was snatches of conversation with a visiting exhibitor, an official of a regional theatre owners' organization.

"You know," he observed at one point, "I've done quite a bit of traveling lately on behalf of the Sixth War Loan drive. The thing about it that has impressed me most is the manner in which exhibitors respond time after time to help put over an industry war drive.

"Everywhere we went, the turnouts of exhibitors of every classification were really something to see. Many of them came from distant points, left understaffed theatres and offices where their presence was badly needed, and renounced other obligations to attend meetings held for the single purpose of informing them how they could best contribute to the Sixth campaign.

"The earnestness with which they approach a new and yet an old war bond campaign, old in the sense that this is the sixth time they have tackled the same job, is at once a tribute to the rank and file of this industry and an inspiration to those charged with organizing the industry's campaign. I have no way of knowing whether or not I am right, but I believe no other industry contributes as much, man for man, in individual sales effort and results in the bond drives as our industry. And the spirit in which it is done — the determination to tackle a big job and do it well, over and over again—probably is not matched elsewhere in American business."

There is a thought for today, as the Sixth War Loan drive opens officially: To do the best job in this campaign of any industry and in the doing, exceed previous accomplishments.

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The conversation provided the opportunity for this department to inquire why so many exhibitors who participate wholeheartedly and jointly in industry war drives turn a fishy eye on suggestions that the War Activities Committee be continued in the postwar period.

"That's not easy to answer," was the reply. "I have often asked the question myself when I have heard the suggestion scoffed at. The reply most frequently encountered is that the exhibitors do the work and the 'big shots' get the credit; that that's all right as long as what's being done is for the Government and the war effort, but that it wouldn't be countenanced for any other reason.

"However," he continued, "I doubt if that's really the reason. I suspect the explanation goes much deeper than that. Outside of wartime, there never has been any successful, durable collaboration between buyer and seller in this industry. It's the nature of the business, a business without a standard price list, whose sellers must 'beware' as well as the buyers, for mistakes can be costly on both sides. You can't change that overnight and, in the meantime, it's hard to convince many on both sides that collaboration can do as much good for one as for the other.

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"At present," he observed, "the average exhibitor isn't much concerned about anything in the way of trade problems. Business has been too good. When the money's coming in, very little else is of genuine concern to your average exhibitor. He is indifferent to the consent decree and what becomes of it. You can warn him of probable increases in taxation, and not really get his ear. I doubt whether you will see collaboration among exhibitors even on tax matters.

"The 20 per cent Federal admission tax, we might just as well admit, was absorbed by a free-spending public without a complaint. The danger in increased taxation now is that it will still be around when the easy-money days are over. Then it will hurt, and hurt badly. But, until the effects of high taxation are readily apparent, an awful lot of shouting will have to be done by the exhibitor organizations before your contented theatre owner really faces the fact that there is a job to be done for the protection of his own box office, a job which he cannot do by himself."

Rodgers Lists Five MGM Showings

CINCINNATI, Nov. 19.—In addition to the five pictures already scheduled for trade showings this month, M-G-M has set exhibitor screenings for five more during December. William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager stated here today at a sales meeting. The pictures are: "Between Two Women," on Dec. 19; "Gentle Annie," the same day, except in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Boston, where the date is Dec. 20. "National Velvet", Dec. 27 (this will be shown again in New York, although it has already been screened there Oct. 19); "This Man's Navy," Jan. 3. On the same day, "Music For Millions" will be shown, except in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Boston, where it will be shown Jan. 4.

The early scheduling, Rodgers said, is to enable exhibitors to plan well ahead to attend, and follows M-G-M's aim to build exhibitor attendance at showings. The company's next block is not set, but will be announced shortly.

All M-G-M home office and out of town executives left this afternoon for their respective posts following the end of the meetings of sales and district heads.

Study New Approach To 'Dimes' Drive

A national survey on the most efficient manner in which to conduct a charity-collection drive in theatres is being made by the national film committee of the 1945 'March of Dimes.' From data gathered directly from exhibitors, a consensus of methods will be transmitted to all exhibitors, Oscar A. Doob of the campaign committee, said at the weekend.

"Instead of projecting theories, we plan to make use of the fact that some 11,000 exhibitors now have plenty of firing-line experience gained in the highly successful 'March of Dimes' drive in 1942, '43 and '44," said Doob.

Doob has written to exhibitors whose collections topped the drive lists in each state and also to several hundred exhibitors who were outstanding in their cities. Their answers will be incorporated in a campaign book now being prepared.

Mayer Leaves Hospital

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 19.—Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M production head, was discharged from the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital at the weekend after almost four months for treatment of an injury sustained in a fall from a horse. He is now recuperating at his Beverly Hills home but the date of his return to the studio is indefinite.

Harris to Reade

Jack Harris, with Skouras Theatres for the past eight years, has joined the Walter Reade circuit, effective Nov. 27, as chief film buyer and executive assistant.

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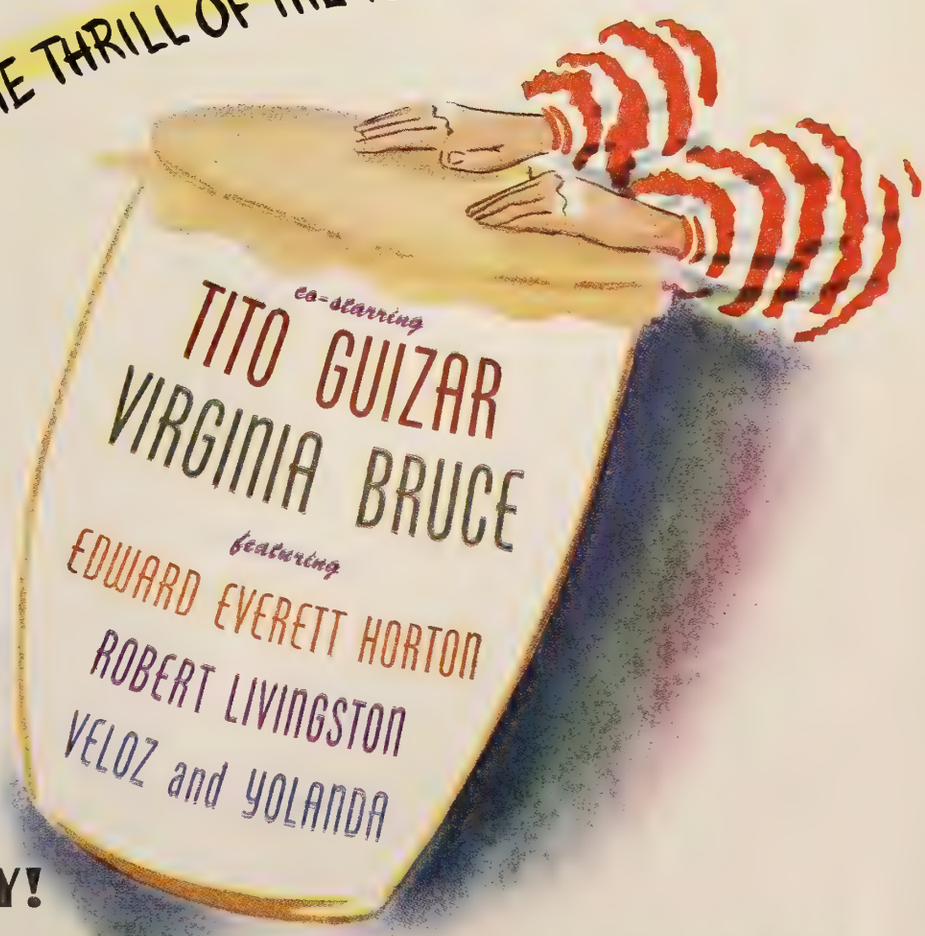

GOLD NEIGHBOR POLICY!

Brazil
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YES REPUBLIC IS SPENDING
THOUSANDS TO GIVE
EXHIBITORS THAT
EXTRA SOMETHING THA
WILL MAKE Brazil
THEIR GREATEST
GROSSER EVER

Decree Four Years Old

(Continued from page 1)

42 selling season the following August-September.

Section 12 of the decree the so-called 'escape clause,' provided that the five consenting companies could be relieved of the trade-showing and blocks-of-five clauses under stipulated conditions, chief of which was that the Department had not succeeded by June 1, 1942, in having entered a similar decree against Columbia, United Artists and Universal. Despite the fact that the Department was not successful in so doing, consenting companies made no application for relief from the two provisions.

Trial Period

The decree also provided for a three-year trial period during which the consenting companies agreed not to engage in any general program of theatre expansion, in return for which the Department agreed not to press an action for affiliated theatre divorcement during the trial period. Despite the fact that this provision expired one year ago today, consenting companies uniformly have continued to observe all provisions of the original decree.

On Aug. 7 last, the Department filed in the U. S. District Court here its proposed amendments to the industry decree and current indications are that on Dec. 5 the Department will ask Judge Goddard to set a date for a hearing on the amendments. The new proposals ask for the divorcement of affiliated theatres within a three-year period, a prohibition on the conditioning of the licensing of one picture on the licensing of another; the extension and revision of arbitration rules and procedure, voiding of pooling and franchise agreements and the continuation of many of the present decree provisions.

New Equipment Hit By War Goods Slump

(Continued from page 1)

erations in Europe last Summer were seriously retarded by lack of gasoline and that many of the war production programs are now lagging badly.

Mobilization director James Byrnes has given sharp instructions to the War Production Board, Manpower Commission and other war agencies to step up their activities. Failing to get the war production program back on schedule, Byrnes said, will necessitate the suspension of all plans for increasing the output of civilian goods.

The most serious phase of the problem is manpower and the failure to produce war products is laid to the defection of thousands of workers who are seeking permanent peacetime jobs on the basis of statements by Government officials some weeks ago, now deeply regretted by the Administration, indicating that the end of the war in Europe was near.

Litton Plans House

PLEASANT HILL, La., Nov. 19.—Robert Litton will open a new theatre here shortly at an estimated cost of $40,000.

Goldman Asks Seven Day Clearance Cut

William Goldman Theatres, Inc., operator of the Keith and Karlton, Philadelphia, has filed a clearance complaint in that city's tribunal against Paramount, RKO and 20th Century-Fox, asking that clearance of the two houses be reduced from 14 days to seven, after first-runs.

Complainant charged that prior to his purchase of the two houses from the Stanley Co. of America, Warner subsidiary, they were operated second-run unrestricted by any clearance and frequently showed pictures the day after completion of the first-run and, in other instances, a few days after first-run.

Named as interested parties were Warners and Stanley.

One Award Rendered, Complaint Dropped

Frederick H. Wiggin, arbitrator in the New Haven tribunal, has ruled that the maximum clearance which may be granted to the Wilkinson Theatre, Wallingford, over the Strand may not exceed 30 days, the American Arbitration Association reported here at the weekend. Herman B. Meiselman, operator of the Strand, had filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, asking that the 90-day clearance his theatre was subject to be eliminated.

At the same time, the AAA reported that H. T. Burns, operator of the Cyril Theatre, Cyril, Okla., has withdrawn a some-run complaint against Paramount at the Oklahoma City tribunal.

Major Releases at New Low: Allied

(Continued from page 1)

releases represent a smaller production expenditure, whereas, Allied contends, film prices paid by exhibitors are increased. The bulletin also charges that extended runs at first run theatres "are not merely for the major companies to extend and perfect their monopoly of the field of exhibition, but also increase admission prices by compelling or inducing the theatre-going public to attend the high-admission affiliated theatres." It adds that extended runs 'bleed' the product white before it reaches the subsequent-run theatre. It states that subsequents could do little with "Going My Way," "under the terms on which it is offered."

Discussing blind checking, the bulletin advises exhibitors to have any "skulking figure lurking in the shadows" near the box office arrested as a "vagrant" or "suspicious character."

The Allied bulletin cautions the independent exhibitor against the danger of over-expansion in postwar theatre building, but asserts that new postwar theatres should be built and operated by independent exhibitors "for the good of the industry," and not by producer-distributors.

U. S. Seizes 'Thunder'

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—The Alien Property Custodian has announced the seizure of the copyright interest of S. A. Lianofilm Productions, a French national, in the motion picture "Thunder in the East," the registered copyright owner of which in the U. S. is United Artists.

Employes Insured For $12,723,000

Loew's 'Employes' Group Insurance plan,' starting its 15th year, now carries 4,350 employe policies for a total coverage of $12,723,000.

Since the plan was launched, in 1926, 540 claims have been paid to beneficiaries of employees, for a total of $1,374,250. The company has contributed over $400,000 toward paying the premiums of employees' insurance, to the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Variety Clubs Set Capital Program

(Continued from page 1)

New York are: Barney Balaban, Austin Keough, Claude Lee, Spyros Skouras, Tom Connors; Will Hays, Harry M. Warner, S. Charles Einfeld, Jack Cohn, W. Ray Johnston, J. R. Grainger, George Schaefer, Herman Robbins, George Dembow, N. Peter Rathvon, Nate Blumberg, William Scully, Ed Raftery and Gradwell Sears.

Among those who will attend from Washington are: J. A. Krug, Hon. E. R. Stettinius, C. W. Gray, M. J. McDermott, Hathaway Watson, Ted Gamble, Rear Admiral L. H. Thebaud, Colonel Halsey, Hon. John Russel Young, Col. C. W. Kutz, Vice Admiral R. R. Waesche, General A. A. Vandergift, Brigadier General R. L. Denig, Captain Ellis Reed-Hill, Senator Walter F. George and Gov. Herbert O'Conor of Maryland.

The program for the business meeting, from Thursday to Sunday, follows:

Open House Thursday

Thursday, open house at Tent No. 11, Willard Hotel: national officers and the board of governors of Tent No. 11 will hold a reception at that club, followed by a private dinner and a meeting of national officers and canvassmen.

First business session on Friday will be held at the Hotel Statler, with a luncheon also held there for all delegates, to be followed by a second business session in the afternoon. A reception in the Hotel Mayflower will be followed by the award dinner for Secretary of State Cordell Hull in the Mayflower Friday evening.

Saturday's program includes the final business session, to be followed by open time for sightseeing. A cocktail party will follow at the Variety Club. A reception in the Willard will be followed by a dinner dance.

Re-elected and newly elected national officers will meet at the Statler Sunday morning.

Dover, Camp Shows Executive, Resigns

William B. Dover has resigned as executive administrator of USO-Camp Shows. He had been in charge of Camp Shows operations both in Great Britain and on the Continent. He returned to the U. S. last week, and will resume private business activities. No successor has been named.

PRC a National Distributor In Ten Months

(Continued from page 1)

the board; J. Stinson Young, president, and Leonard Augustus Young, multi-millionaire Detroit manufacturer, whose holdings are estimated to represent as much as $25,000,000, owning the L. A. Young Spring and Wire Corp., L. A. Young Golf Corp., Star Service Hanger Co., Detroit Moulding Corp., Bowen Products Corp., and L. A. Young Industries of Canada.

Fromkess has been in New York nearly a month at work on the construction of a national distribution system, and on other phases of the expansion. This will finally be accomplished, it is understood, by effecting a series of options on PRC territorial franchises presently held by various states-right distributors, under which about 40 per cent of the U. S. will have PRC-owned branches in a single deal. The rest of the country will be brought in between the time this deal is closed and the opening of the 1945-46 selling season, next September. The Youngs, according to authoritative sources, are determined to make PRC a national distributor that quickly.

Two UA Producers

In building the company's production force comparably, PRC will soon announce the engagement of well-known producing talent, among them two now producing for United Artists. Henry Brash, former United Artists producer, will make three pictures for PRC; Fred Jackson will make three.

PRC will hold a board meeting here tomorrow, at which a number of moves to speed up national-company development will be formally submitted and ratified, among them the plan for PRC-owned exchanges. A tentative production lineup for next season will also be discussed, with Fromkess detailing production plans to date; the 1945-46 program will be expanded numerically and budgetwise. This year's program calls for 36 features and 16 Westerns, each with flexible budgets. Originally, PRC was committed to eight "A" productions this year, announced as costing between $250,000 and $400,000; it is now probable that these will be extended to include 12.

PRC's distribution department will have several additions, it is learned. Because of manpower shortages in the field, it is likely that the company will try to hold as many of the present exchange staff members as possible. Leo McCarthy is sales manager of the company.

The company will establish a sizeable foreign sales department and open European exchanges, with Paris in mind as a starter. United Kingdom sales now are handled by Pathe.

Mae Tinee Ill

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—Albert Goldberg, assistant drama and music critic on the *Tribune* here, has been named temporary film editor, filling in for Mae Tinee who has taken a leave of absence due to illness. Goldberg's film reviews have been the most critical appearing in local dailies.

'Parkington' Is $76,500 Top Grosser in L.A.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 19.—"Mrs. Parkington" took the cream of grosses in a week of wet weather, getting $76,500 at the Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz trio, where average business is $33,100. All other theatres were adversely affected by the "unusual" weather.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 15:

"The Climax" (Univ.)
"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,500).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $9,500).
"Strange Affair" (Col.)
"Underground Guerillas" (Col.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $6,200).
"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
"Carolina Blues" (Col.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $19,700).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $31,500. (Average: $24,100).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $14,900).
"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
"Carolina Blues" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,700).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
"National Barn Dance" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (HOLLYWOOD)—(1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
"National Barn Dance" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (DOWNTOWN)—(3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $8,700).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,500).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,377. (Average: $17,000).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,428. (Average: $18,700).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,863. (Average: $15,200).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.)
FOX-WILSHIRE—(2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,200).

'Thought of You' on Dual Gets $20,400

BUFFALO, Nov. 19.—"The Very Thought of You" and "Dark Mountain" looked good for $20,400 at the Great Lakes.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 18:

"The Conspirators" (WB)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $17,400).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $20,400. (Average: $16,200).
"Strawberry Blonde" (WB)
"That's My Baby" (Rep.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, reissue. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,700).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Call of the South Seas" (Rep.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,200).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"Ali, Beautiful" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. "The Climax". 2nd week. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $12,400).

Sixth Loan Off to Flying Start; N.Y. Rally Tonight

(*Continued from page* 1)

united fighting force," committee headquarters here reports.

Upon conclusion of the meetings, exhibitor units throughout the country conducted their own state and local rallies, and from latest reports some of the greatest campaigns ever sponsored by the industry are now focused on the drive.

Reports from the nine co-chairmen in the field reveal that the Sixth Loan will see more Bond Premieres than ever before, that exhibitors everywhere are rapidly lining up for Children Matinees, and that national "Free Movie Day," Dec. 7, will be ushered in with more shows than ever.

This evening 10 network programs will be aired from Madison Square Garden here, where a six-hour show will feature top talent. This rally, expected to sell between $85,000,000 and $100,000,000 in bonds, is under the auspices of the War Activities Committee.

Roosevelt Aids Film Liberty Dedication

At noon on Friday President Roosevelt flashed a button in Washington, which automatically lit a torch in a replica of the Statue of Liberty at Times Square here, and signified the official opening of the industry's Sixth War Loan drive. Lucy Monroe and a Coast Guard quartet sang the National Anthem, Navy Chaplin Maurice Witherspoon delivered an invocation, and speeches were delivered by Major L. E. Thompson of RKO and George J. Schaefer of the War Activities Committee. Newbold Morris, acting Mayor of New York City, also spoke.

Preceding the dedication, 1,200 gathered for a bond breakfast at the Astor Hotel. It was pointed out that each theatre in the New York area must sell 1,000 bonds to equal its quota. Speakers included Ned E. Depinet, John Hertz, Jr., Malcolm Kingsberg and Harry Brandt.

57 Million 'Blind Date'

Presidents of six film companies, with a combined bid of $57,000,000 in Sixth War Loan bond purchases, have outbid other contestants in a "blind date" radio program to be held in connection with the rally at Madison Square Garden tonight. Each president has turned his "chance" over to one of six service men, three of whom will be chosen by Phyllis Brooks, Carole Landis and Marion Hutton for a tour of New York City's night clubs.

Barney Balaban of Paramount bid $25,000,000; Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's, $10,000,000; Harry M. Warner, Warner Bros., $6,000,000; N. Peter Rathvon, RKO, $5,000,000; Charles Skouras, Fox West Coast Theatres, $7,000,000, and Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox, $4,000,000.

$21,000,000 in Bonds For Army-Navy Game

BALTIMORE, Nov. 19.—Frank Durkee, exhibitor state chairman of the War Activities Committee for the Sixth War Loan drive, has assured Senator Radcliffe his group will guarantee the sale of $21,000,000 in war bonds, 10 percent of the state quota, for admissions to the Army-Navy game in the Stadium here. The Navy Department announced at the weekend that the game would be played here.

Paramount Rally Set

Paramount's Sixth War Loan Rally will be held here tomorrow and will be addressed by Harry Brandt, national chairman of the industry's participation in the drive; Capt. Raymond W. Wild, Adolph Zukor, Leonard Goldenson and actress Phyllis Brooks.

Baltimore Improves, 'Laura' Outstanding

BALTIMORE, Nov. 19.—Strong attractions and splendid weather combined to bring out many for new openings. Results are better than recent weeks and above average in many instances. Outstanding is "Laura" which, within the limited seating of the New Theatre's 1,581, is scoring $12,500 for its first seven days.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 16:

"Abroad With Two Yanks" (UA)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,000).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000).
"The Master Race" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Joey Rardin, Russ Miller, Lora Lee, The Maxellos, Burns Twins and Evelyn. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $7,000).
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000.)

'Conspirators' and 'Swing' Swing Big

DENVER, Nov. 19.—"The Conspirators" on a dual at the Denver is leading here with $18,750.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 13-16:

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $5,600).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $18,750. (Average: $15,000).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $5,625. (Average: $4,500).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
"Shadows of Suspicion" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,300).
"Cry of the Werewolf" (Col.)
"The Soul of a Monster" (Col.)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000).

Schlichtman to Coast

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 18.—Leonard Schlichtman, a booker at the local Paramount exchange, has resigned to join the Paramount production staff Alex Schweizer succeeds him here.

Set Conciliator in SOPEG Dispute

The U. S. Conciliation Service has designated Commissioner James W. Fitzpatrick as mediator in the contract and job classification dispute between the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO and Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, RKO and Columbia involving some 2,000 'white collar' workers in the home offices of those companies. No date has yet been set for the first meeting with Fitzpatrick.

SOPEG broke off negotiations with the companies one month ago after seeking to work out a system of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales and automatic progression increases. A contract had expired last July. Last week, SOPEG petitioned John R. Steelman, of the Conciliation Service for a mediator. Should mediation fail to resolve the controversy, it will be sent to the War Labor Board.

Meanwhile, a collective bargaining election to be held under the auspices of the State Labor Relations Board has been set for Dc. 13 in the attempt of SOPEG to secure jurisdiction of the office workers in Republic's New York exchange. These workers were previously represented by IATSE Local F-51, whose contract has expired. Workers will be asked to decide between SOPEG, the IATSE or no union.

SPG, Companies in Talk on Merit Raises

For the first time a provision embodied in the new contract adopted by the New York Screen Publicists Guild and home offices here calling for semi-annual merit reviews has become operative.

Contract committees of the various Guild units are meeting with company representatives on an informal basis. The clause became effective on Nov. 4 and as a result of discussions additional increases for some categories of publicists may be forthcoming.

60,000,000 Attended Paramount Theatre

The Times Square Paramount Theatre observed its 18th anniversary yesterday. Since the house opened, Nov. 19, 1926, a total of 675 films have played to an attendance of 60,000,000.

Nevin, Hochstein Hearing

A hearing is scheduled before Federal Judge Samuel Mandelbaum today on Isadore Nevin, former bookkeeper for George E. Browne, ex-president of the IATSE, and Harry Hochstein, former morals inspector in Chicago, both of whom were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury for perjury in the Bioff-Browne case. Hearing was originally set for Oct. 16.

O'Brien Rites Held

Funeral services for James J. O'Brien, father of Morton D. O'Brien, assistant projection and sound director for Loew's Theatres, were held Saturday at the Walter Cooke Funeral Chapel, Flushing, L. I. Interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Flushing. O'Brien, a well-known architect, is also survived by a daughter.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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Unity Needed In Exhibition: Ed Kuykendall

MPTOA Is Proposed for Industrywide Service

Postwar expansion of MPTOA as a service organization for all classifications of exhibitors and a keystone of industry unity is proposed by the national exhibitor organization in a bulletin released yesterday by Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president.

The bulletin points out that before there can be industry unity there must be unity among exhibitors and the starting point for the latter is with the regional exhibitor associations.

Exhibitor unity, the bulletin contends, cannot be achieved while some organizations continue to pit independent exhibitors against affiliated thea-

(*Continued on page* 9)

Rodgers Calls for Unity in Postwar

CINCINNATI, Nov. 20.—Cooperation between producers and exhibitors in the postwar, with an equal profit to both "is an absolute necessity," William F. Rodgers, vice president and general sales manager of M-G-M, stated here as he left following an executive sales meeting. Rodgers stated he is certain, that no thinking exhibitor wants any curtailment in

(*Continued on page* 3)

Cartoon Production Doubled by Disney

Walt Disney Productions will deliver 18 cartoon short subjects in 1944-45, against nine last season. Roy Disney, executive vice-president and general manager, said here yesterday. Disney is here from the Coast to set release of "Three Caballeros," color feature, through RKO.

Production of shorts is but a small part of the Disney program, he said. Although Government work has fallen off 25 per cent in terms of dollar production value, it still remains important in the studio production scheme. The next Disney feature, he said, will

(*Continued on page* 3)

Postwar Role for Variety Clubs Seen

The Variety Clubs of America are offered by the MPTOA, in a bulletin released yesterday, for consideration "as a permanent, all-industry charity organization to carry on organized cooperation with worthy welfare and charity drives after our war activities terminate."

The bulletin, signed by Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president, says: "The Variety Clubs have done a marvelous job already and can do a much bigger one in the future. No show business organization has done more to spread good will and win public esteem for films and theatres."

New Slump at Most B'way First-Runs; $75,000 for 'Tokyo'

Business at New York first-run downtown theatres is generally off this week with some managers characterizing it as a pre-Thanksgiving holiday slump. Of the new arrivals, however, two are doing good business: "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," combined with a stage bill featuring Jimmy Dorsey and his band and Henry Youngman, is headed for a big $75,000 at the Capitol on the basis of $52,000 recorded on the first four days.

"None But the Lonely Heart" is expected to bring an exceptionally good $38,000 on its first week at the Palace with $19,000 taken in on the first three days. "The Very Thought of You" and a stage presentation featuring Abe Lyman and his band are

(*Continued on page* 3)

Business Up 20%: Johnston

On the basis of the first three months' business in the new season, Monogram in 1944-45 will register a gain of 20 per cent in sales over last year, with English income expected to increase 33 per cent, W. Ray Johnston, company president, disclosed here yesterday. He ascribed the increase to the fact that Monogram was making more pictures in higher brackets.

W. Ray Johnston

Monogram will reestablish its own Paris sales office, the center

(*Continued on page* 8)

Industry Affected By Ohio Strike

COLUMBUS, Nov. 20.—Theatre and exchange operations, if not attendance, are being appreciably affected in some 25 Ohio cities by crippling of telephone service through sympathetic strikes of operator-members of the Federation of Telephone Workers, stemming from a walkout of 600 girls at Dayton last Friday in protest of importation of out-of-town operators at higher salaries to defray living costs, to relieve overloaded phone service. Virtual suspension of communication facilities exists in communities where manually-operated switchboards are maintained, although those

(*Continued on page* 8)

'IA' to Query Jurisdiction Of 'Collarites'

7,300 in Film Offices and Salesmen Involved

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 20.—IATSE officials are expected to bring before the American Federation of Labor executive board at the AFL's convention, which opened here today, the question of the future AFL affiliation of 7,300 film company office workers. Also involved is the status of several film salesmen's groups seeking IATSE charters.

The newly-chartered AFL Office Workers International Union, which seeks to take jurisdiction over the three principal AFL "white collar collar"

(*Continued on page* 9)

Crescent Decision Is Delayed by Court

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—The U. S. Supreme Court recessed today over the month-end without passing on the Crescent Amusement Co. anti-trust case on which it heard arguments Nov. 6 and 7, but may have an opinion ready to hand down when it reconvenes again Dec. 4.

Indications are that the opinion will

(*Continued on page* 3)

WLB Will Get RKO, Managers Dispute

The New York State Board of Mediation is shortly expected to certify to the War Labor Board the contract dispute between RKO and Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistant managers in RKO theatres of Metropolitan New York.

A meeting before the Mediation

(*Continued on page* 3)

Reduction of War Overtime Reduces Midwest Theatre Receipts Up to 20%

Chicago, Nov. 20.—Neighborhood theatres in defense plant areas around here have suffered a 10 to 20 per cent drop in business for the past three months, compared to the same period in 1943, a survey among exhibitors in those territories reveals. The percentage drop is higher in the first-run neighborhood houses with a stiffer admission scale, due to a cut in overtime work in most plants.

Charles H. Ryan, assistant zone manager for Warner Theatres here, reveals that the business drop in Hammond, Ind., near here, has been especially noticeable since Labor Day. Warners operate the three leading houses in Hammond, one of the leading defense industry towns in the tri-state area. The majority of Hammond plants no longer keep any shifts over their regular eight-hour working schedule, cutting down the time and a half pay overtime payments.

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "Carolina Blues," Columbia, and "Ghost Guns," Monogram, appear on page 8.

Cole at 25th Tex. Allied Convention

DALLAS, Nov. 20.—Allied of Texas will hold its 25th annual meeting Nov. 27-28 at the White-Plaza Hotel here, with Col. H. A. Cole, president, at the gavel. Meetings will be held in two afternoon sessions, with representatives of 150 Texas independent theatres expected to attend. Discussions on the first day will be devoted to problems of today and the second to problems of tomorrow, both sessions to take up such matters as labor and material shortages and post-war competition and construction.

Discussions of the pending industry consent decree and election of new officers will be held on the second day, when the meeting will close with a dinner at the Variety Club, given by Col. Cole in honor of members. Present officers, in addition to Cole, are vice-presidents Rubin Frels, Victoria; H. S. Leon, Dallas, and Marthe McSpadden, Electra, and A. W. Lilly, Greenville, secretary- treasurer.

Slesin Again Heads Warners in Paris

Beno Slesin, formerly supervisor for Warner offices in Central and Eastern Europe and the Near East, where he opened or organized many of the territories, has rejoined the company, it was announced here yesterday by Joseph S. Hummel, vice-president of Warner's International Corp.

Slesin will be attached to Hummel's staff at the home office for the time being, but later will return to Paris.

Miss Len Cohen Dies, 25 Years with Loew

Funeral services for Miss Len Cohen, assistant treasurer of Loew's since 1919, will be held here today at Riverside Funeral Chapel.

During her quarter century with Loew's Miss Cohen also served as personal secretary to David Bernstein, vice-president and treasurer, and has been in charge of all insurance matters for Loew's theatres. She is survived by two sisters and two brothers.

D'Andrea, Engst Killed

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.—Lt. Joseph T. D'Andrea, 28, and Pvt. John Engst both formerly with the Essaness Circuit, have been killed in action in France.

George Kitzinger Dies

ATLANTA, Nov. 20.—George Kitzinger, prominent in industry circles here, died following a heart attack.

Rathvon Toastmaster

N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, will be toastmaster tonight at the annual dinner of the New York Alumni Club of the University of Colorado, to be held at the Hotel Ambassador. Rathvon is president of the Club. Floyd B. Odlum, board chairman of RKO, and also a Colorado alumnus, will be a principal speaker.

Personal Mention

HARRY M. WARNER arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

ALFRED DELCAMBRE, former film actor and more recently film salesman for Paramount in the Dallas exchange, has been promoted to Lt. Commander, USNR.

•

PAUL SHORT, USNR, formerly division manager of National Screen in Dallas, and now stationed at the Naval Air Station, New Orleans, is now a Commander.

•

SOPHIE ROSENSTEIN, talent test director for Warner Bros., will arrive in New York from the Coast tomorrow.

•

GEORGE A. HICKEY M-G-M Western district manager, presently in Ohio, will arrive on the Coast on Saturday.

•

BILL EWING, assistant director of advertising and publicity for Warner Bros., celebrated his 20th wedding anniversary recently.

•

BERNIE SHAPIRO, Southern Poster and Printing Co., Atlanta, will leave there soon for New York and Chicago on business.

•

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount president, will leave Hollywood by plane for New York tomorrow.

•

AL SCHWARTZ, Columbia accessories manager in Philadelphia and BELLE WEINER were married Nov. 19.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia's assistant general sales manager, will leave today for Jacksonville on business.

•

SAM GARDINER, M-G-M Salt Lake City manager, will arrive in New York today.

BARRINGTON C. GAIN, and DR. ALEXANDER GALPERSON, distribution representatives of J. ARTHUR RANK of London left here yesterday for London.

•

EDWARD CARROLL, owner of the Riverside Park-In Theatre and Amusement Park, Springfield, Mass., has been named president and treasurer of the Barrington (Mass.) Fair Association which he has directed for the past four years.

•

RUSSELL DOWNING, vice-president and treasurer of Radio City Music Hall, has returned to New York after a month's trip to the Coast.

•

HUGH CAMPBELL, manager of the Central Theatre, West Hartford, has been elected to the board of directors of the West Hartford Chamber of Commerce.

•

VINCENT D. BROOKS, former assistant at Warner's Allegheny, Philadelphia, and now in the Army, and VIRGINIA KREYMBORG, will be married on Thursday.

•

MRS. TED SCHLANGER, wife of the Philadelphia zone head of the Warner Theatre circuit, has entered University Hospital, Philadelphia, for a major operation.

•

ULRIK SMITH, Paramount branch manager in Philadelphia celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary last week.

•

WALT DONAHUE, Columbia office manager in Philadelphia, has returned to his desk after an illness.

•

TREM CARR, executive director at Monogram studio, has returned to his desk following a siege of influenza.

•

FRED ROHRS, Atlanta division manager of PRC, is in New York.

$10,000 Wage Payoff For 'U' Office Help

'White collar' workers in Universal's home office have received retroactive wage increase payments of $10,000. The increases are under a new contract, approved by the Regional War Labor Board, with Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, AFL.

The contract sets minimum and maximum wage scales under a system of job classifications, a four per cent general wage increase and a four per cent merit wage increase.

Film - Play Plan To Guild Committee

The Dramatists Guild of New York has referred to a special committee a plan of H. William Fitelson, theatrical attorney, which permits an author to sell film rights to his play prior to production. The committee will report on its findings on Dec. 5.

Among its main points, the plan calls for a ceiling of $250,000 advance money on each production.

Weyer Heads Variety Club in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 20.—Clint Weyer of Highway Express Lines has been elected chief barker of Tent No. 13, Variety Club here. Others elected were: Ted Schlanger, local head of Warner Theatres, first assistant chief barker; David Supowitz, second assistant; Jack Greenberg, dough guy; Al J. Davis, property master; Mike felt, chairman of the house committee.

Jack Beresin was elected national canvassman and Felt and Bill McEvoy, Jr., were delegates to the national convention.

Postpone Sentencing

The trial of Harry Hochstein, former morals inspector in Chicago, and the sentencing of Isadore Nevin, former bookkeeper for George E. Browne, ex-president of the IATSE, both of whom were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury for alleged perjury in the Bioff-Browne proceedings, were set for Dec. 18, yesterday, by Judge Vincent L. Leibell.

Connally of CIAA on South American Tour

John S. Connally, newsreel director of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, has left for Rio de Janeiro aboard the Brazil Clipper, on a tour of Latin American countries.

Connally, who made the first talking newsreel pictures of Adolph Hitler, will study the possibilities of expansion in the exchange of news films between Latin American nations and the U. S.

NEW YORK THEATRES

Hollywood's Pan-American Musical Romance!
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647
REPUBLIC THEATER
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
GREER GARSON — WALTER PIDGEON
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Edward Arnold - Agnes Moorehead
Cecil Kellaway
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
10TH WEEK—RIVOLI
★ BROADWAY AND 49th STREET ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
CARY GRANT
IN
"None But the Lonely Heart"
WITH
MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE
BARRY FITZGERALD

Alan Ladd ★ In Person
Loretta Young
in PARAMOUNT'S
"AND NOW TOMORROW"
GLEN GRAY
and the
Casa Loma Orchestra
ANDY RUSSELL
JERI SULIAVAN
SON & SONNY
WALLY BROWN and
ALAN CARNEY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BARBARA STANWYCK
FRED MacMURRAY
Edward G. ROBINSON
in Paramount's
'DOUBLE INDEMNITY'
IN PERSON
JOE CHARLIE
SMITH & DALE
GENE BAYLOS
EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION
The RED CAPS

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WLB Will Get RKO, Managers Dispute

(Continued from page 1)

Board here yesterday, at which N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, appeared, failed to resolve the controversy. The company is understood to contend that it does not feel that managers have a right to unionize because they are executives, despite the fact that the New York State Labor Relations Board has recognized the right of managers to organize in certifying the Guild as the collective bargaining representative of the managers following an election won by the Guild.

Informed legal opinion here sees several obstacles remaining before RKO can make a test case of the issue.

RKO can still make a court issue of the managers' rights by seeking a declaratory judgment from the New York State Supreme Court on the ruling of the SLRB.

U. S. to Lead World in Television: Kesten

The United States has world leadership in television at its finger tips, Paul W. Kesten, Columbia Broadcasting System executive vice-president, stated here yesterday following his return from England, which country, he observed, has not produced a "practical full-color system".

In all other respects, Kesten found, "the British are setting their sights fully as high as the improvements CBS has proposed here". The color shortcoming, likewise, he said, will affect video on the continent, where "the French have been cruelly excluded from the developments in other countries and the Germans have apparently lacked the imagination" to develop a process.

Cartoon Production Doubled by Disney

(Continued from page 1)

be a color film based on the "Uncle Remus" stories , starting around Jan. 1.

The Disney organization is in the preliminary stages of a visual education program, with many problems, however, remaining to be worked out. Roy Disney foresees a vast field in the future for the visual education film when the problem of financing is ironed out. The studio's activity in that direction has been mainly with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

A shortage of trained studio personnel has held up production on many Disney projects, such as "Alice in Wonderland" and "Cinderella," Disney said. Technique of combining the cartoon form with 'live' actors, as used in "Three Caballeros," will open up a "new dramatic dimension" and will give the "maximum of illusion" for any medium, he predicted.

Disney will remain here until Dec. 1 and then will return to Hollywood.

'Point' at West Point

There will be a special screening tonight of Pathe's "West Point," at the military academy, for Major. Gen. F. B. Wilby, Brig. Gen. Honnen and Col. Wildrich. A similar screening will be given later for the entire corps.

$85,000,000 War Bond Sale At N. Y. Garden Rally

Approximately $85,000,000 in bonds were purchased by the 20,000 persons who filled Madison Square Garden last night for the official launching here of the industry's Sixth War Loan drive.

The rally, which consisted of a Coast-to-Coast broadcast of 10 top radio programs, began at six p.m. and ended at midnight. Stars of screen, stage and radio were featured with their shows for the first time in entertainment history emanating from a single auditorium.

Among those who appeared were Lowell Thomas and Gabriel Heatter in their regular news broadcasts; Milton Berle and his "Let Yourself Go" program; Burns and Allen in a special appearance; Harry Hershfield and Joe Laurie, Jr., in "Can You Top This?," "Dr. I. Q.," Arlene Frances in her "Blind Date" presentation, with Carole Landis, Marion Hutton and Phyllis Brooks as the "dates" for three servicemen, and the Quiz Kids.

Arrangements for the rally were made by the film industry's War Activities Committee.

6th Loan Publicity to Top Previous Drives

Publicity for the industry's Sixth War Loan drive will top previous campaigns, according to a report by Tom Waller, on loan from Paramount to the War Activities Committee.

Meadow and Gross on Sixth War Loan Drive

Noel Meadow, publicist of the Victoria Theatre, New York, has been added to the national promotion staff of the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan to handle special events. Syd Gross, publicist of the Rivoli, in New York is assisting him. They are working with Max A. Cohen, director of special events for the drive.

Rodgers Calls for Unity in Postwar

(Continued from page 1)

quality product. "We recognize," said Rodgers, "the surest way of establishing a satisfactory relationship is where both buyer and seller make a profit. We will continue to spend substantial sums to pre-sell our product so that the exhibitor may be doubly secure. We don't offer bargains or seek to buy good will. More than ever we are dependent on one another for our future security and for either of us to hamper the other can only result to the detriment of both."

Rogers also revealed that 17 M-G-M home office and field sales executives have been with the company for an average of 24 years; their total years are 408. On the job longest are E. M. Saunders, assistant general sales manager and Robert Lynch, district manager in Philadelphia, each with the company 29 years. Others are: John E. Flynn, George A. Hickey, Sam Shirley, Jack J. Bowen, each 27 years; Charles E. Kessnich, 26 years; William F. Rodgers, E. K. O'Shea, William R. Ferguson, Charles F. Deesen, 24 years; Joel Bezahler, 23 years; John J. Maloney, 22 years; Maurice N. Wolf, Rudolph Berger, 20 years; Alan F. Cummings, 19 years; John P. Byrne, Burtus Bishop, Jr., Irving Helfont, 18 years; Harold Postman, 17 years and Leonard Hirsch, 14 years.

Willkie Memorial Bldg.

A Wendell Willkie Memorial Building will be established soon in the New York midtown area, the board of directors of Freedom House announced last night. Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, is a member of the committee on the project.

Roffman to D. E. Green

Richard H. Roffman, former director of promotion, public relations and radio for Hillman Periodicals, has joined David E. Green Associates here as account executive.

Trammell Refutes Close NBC Charge

After several days' silence, Niles Trammell, president of National Broadcasting Co., replying to charges of Upton Close, radio commentator, that the latter's contract had been cancelled because of pressure on the network brought by Communists and other groups, has characterized these charges as 'completely false.'

Trammell said that Close had been notified of his dismissal in October and that the decision was made "as a matter of network operations." Max Hill, former Tokyo correspondent for Associated Press and now an NBC commentator, replaces Close.

Hopper Back West With WPB Report

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 20. — The War Production Board will make no reduction from present allocations of raw film stock, Harold Hopper, M-G-M studios general manager, stated upon his arrival here from Washington at the weekend.

"The WPB, the military services and other groups are very cooperative in their attitude toward the allocation of raw stock as well as in their belief that motion pictures should concentrate upon building morale in Europe and the United States," Hopper said, adding that the agencies agreed with the industry's contention that this work should be carried out as soon as possible.

Special 'World' Previews

Lester Cowan and his general manager, Bernard B. Kreisler, have scheduled a series of special preview showings throughout the country for "Tomorrow the World." The screenings will be in conjunction with a Coast to Coast tour by "Skippy" Homeier, 12-year-old boy, who appeared in both the play and screen versions. Tour starts in Dallas, Nov. 24, and ends in Pittsburgh on Dec. 22.

New Slump at Most B'way First-Runs; $75,000 for 'Tokyo'

(Continued from page 1)

doing moderate business at the Strand and $52,000 is expected for the first week.

Holdovers are only getting moderate business. "Mrs. Parkington" and a stage show will bring about $107,000 on a sixth and final week at Radio City Music Hall after the combination brought outstanding business during the first five weeks. "Together Again" will open at the Music Hall Thursday. A modest $74,000 is expected for the second week of "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" and a stage bill featuring Gracie Barrie and Ray Bolger at the Roxy; the bill will hold for a third and final week before making way for "Something for the Boys."

Business is off at the Paramount with a poor $49,000 expected on the third and final week of "I Love a Soldier." "And Now Tomorrow" and a stage show featuring Glen Gray and his orchestra will open there tomorrow.

The Long Runs

Of the long run films, "Kismet," at the Astor, brought $14,000 for its 13th week at the Astor and will hold for a 14th and final week, making way for "Meet Me in St. Louis" on Nov. 28; "Frenchman's Creek" will bring about $35,000 for its ninth week and will continue at the Rivoli. "To Have and Have Not" is holding up well at the Hollywood with $32,000 expected on a sixth week.

A quiet $11,000 is expected on the first week of "Brazil" at the Republic. A good $25,000 is expected for the second week of "Lost in a Harem" at the Criterion; it will continue. "Summer Storm" will continue at the Gotham with $13,000 expected for the fifth week, which is equal to the fourth week's gross.

"Great Moment" is below expectations at the Globe. First week brought only $10,000 and an additional $6,000 was recorded on the final three days of a second week ending last night. "Dark Waters" will open today. The second week of "Mark of the Whistler," at the Rialto, will bring a poor $6,000; "One Body Too Many" will open Friday. Ninth week of "Wilson" at the Victoria is down to $6,500; the film will continue.

Crescent Decision Is Delayed by Court

(Continued from page 1)

be written by one of the senior members of the Court. Associate Justice Frank Murphy, who was Attorney General when the Crescent case was developed, did not attend the hearings on the arguments and will not participate in further consideration of the case, in line with the policy of members to disqualify themselves when matters come up in which they had an interest before joining the Court.

Each month while in session, the Supreme Court devotes two weeks to hearing arguments on cases and two weeks to the considerations and writing of opinions.

While it is possible that the Crescent opinion may be rendered at a session next month, it may also be that it will be delayed.

MOTION PICTURE E
DOUBLY HONORED

U. S. POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT ISSUES SPECIAL POSTAGE STAMP!

6TH WAR LOAN

Truly a mark of honor—and one accorded to only two other industries before—is the issuance of a special three-cent stamp by the Post Office, to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Motion Pictures . . . and in recognition of the important contribution of the industry to the War Effort. This great tribute, coming at the time of the initiation of the Sixth War Loan Drive should serve, both as "thank-you" for a job well done in the previous loans and as an incentive to better even your own fine record.

GET BEHIND OUR GOVERNMENT • PUT *ALL* YOUR "SEL

This message was prepared and inserted in the trade press by: Columbia Pictures Corp., Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures, Paramount Pict

EIBITORS OF AMERICA
OUR GOVERNMENT!

THE DEPT. OF THE TREASURY APPOINTS YOU OFFICIAL U. S. ISSUING AGENTS!

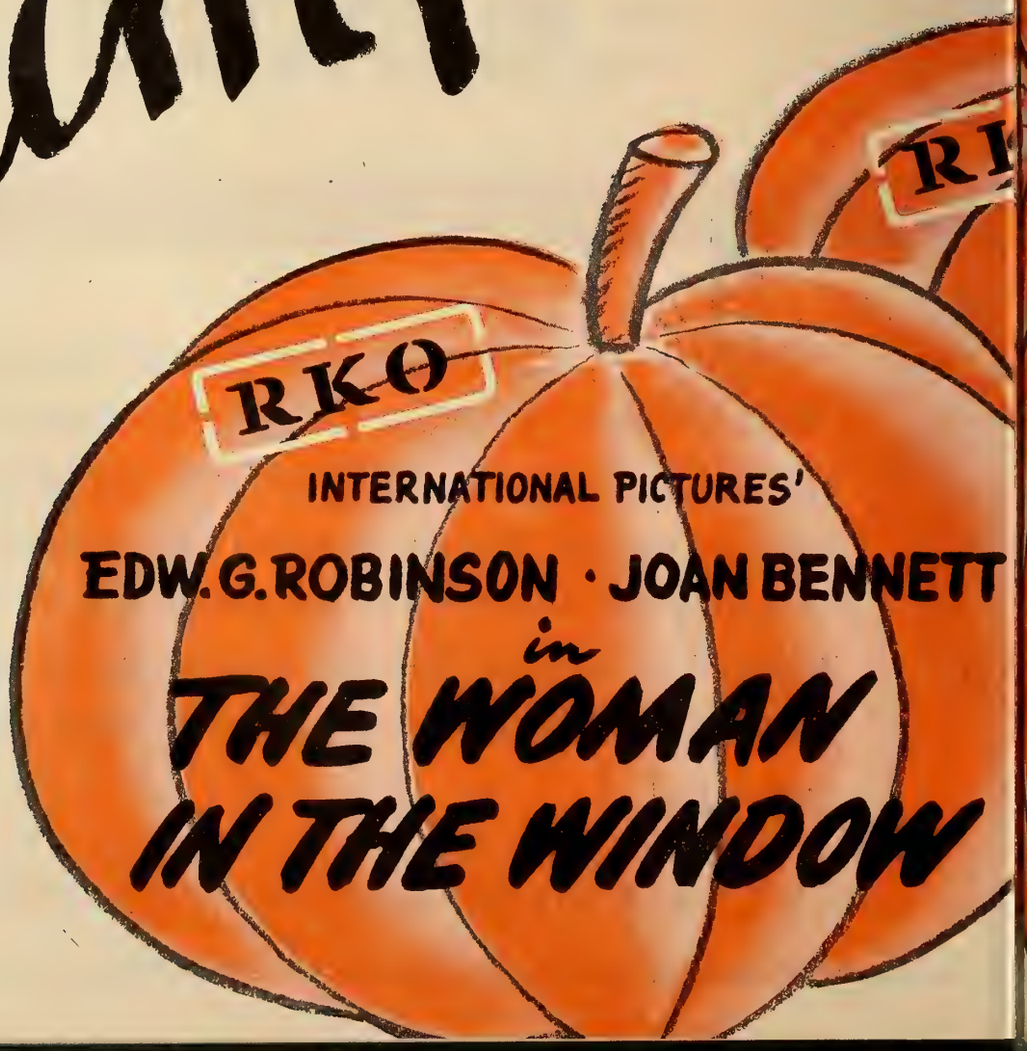
6TH WAR LOAN

In appointing the exhibitors of America as Issuing Agents for Bonds, the Treasury Department has recognized the stability and integrity of our industry—has given it a recognition and responsibility formerly accorded only to banking institutions! In accepting the authority as Issuing Agents—you also accept a great honor. And we know you will meet it with all the showmanship at your disposal—getting behind the Sixth War Loan with everything you've got!

EHIND THE SALE OF BONDS IN THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

RKO-Radio Pictures, Inc., Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp., United Artists Corp., Universal Pictures Company, Inc., Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.

Some Pumpkins



SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

RKO

SAMUEL GOLDWYN
PRESENTS
BOB HOPE
IN
THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE

RKO

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES'
ARY COOPER · TERESA WRIGHT
in
CASANOVA BROWN

RKO

CARY GRANT
in
NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART
ETHEL BARRYMORE
BARRY FITZGERALD

RKO

RKO

THE MASTER RACE

RKO

JOHN WAYNE · ELLA RAINES
in
TALL IN THE SADDLE

Six Completed, Eight Start, 45 are Filming

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 20.—Production increased only slightly during a quiet week. Six features were completed and eight reached the cameras. Total in work was 45. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal," with Lynn Merrick, Rose Hunter, Ted Donaldson. "Men of the Deep," with Chester Morris, Victor McLaglen, Jean Rogers.

Shooting: "A Thousand and One Nights," untitled "Crime Doctor," "Leave It to Blondie," "One Against Seven."

M-G-M

Started: "Alter Ego," with Phyllis Thaxter, Edmund Gwenn, Kathleen Lockhart.

Shooting: "Weekend at the Waldorf," "Without Love," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Hold High the Torch," "Son of Lassie," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Shooting: "Make Way for Kelly."

Paramount

Shooting: "The Virginian," "Scared Stiff," "The Lost Weekend," "The Love Letters," "The Affairs of Susan," "Duffy's Tavern."

PRC

Started: "Barber of Red Gap," with Buster Crabbe, Al St. John.

Shooting: "Crime, Inc."

RKO Radio

Started: "Along Came Jones" (International), with Gary Cooper, Loretta Young, William Demarest, Dan Duryea, Frank Sully, Russell Simpson.

Shooting: "Invisible Army," "The Body Snatcher," "The Enchanted Cottage," "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Started: "Johnny March" (Walter Colmes) with Richard Arlen, Cheryl Walker, Roger Pryor, Bobby Driscoll, Lola Lane, John Forest, Ian Keith.

Shooting: "Three's a Crowd," "Jealousy" (Gustav Machaty), "Swingin' on a Rainbow," "Earl Carroll Vanities."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Where Do We Go from Here?", "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe."

Shooting: "A Bell for Adano," "Molly, Bless Her," "Circumstantial Evidence," "A Royal Scandal."

United Artists

Started: "Bedside Manner" (Andrew Stone) with Ruth Hussey, John Carroll, Esther Dale.

Shooting: "A Walk in the Sun" (Bronston), "Blood on the Sun" (Cagney).

Universal

Finished: "It's Never Too Late," "Song of the Sarong."

Shooting: "Romance, Incorporated," "Salome—Where She Danced," "Here Come the Co-Eds."

Warners

Finished: "Pillar to Post," "Nobody Lives Forever."

Started: "Hotel Berlin," with Helmut Dantine, Raymond Massey, Faye Emerson, Andrea King, Peter Lorre, Alan Hale, George Coulouris.

Shooting: "The Big Sleep," "San Antonio."

Reviews

"Carolina Blues"

(*Columbia*)

Hollywood, Nov. 20.

KAY KYSER and his aggregation, co-starred with Ann Miller and Victor Moore, sell several millions of dollars worth of war bonds on the screen in this bright little story-to-music and provide a picture which ought to put its audiences in a frame of mind to buy many millions more. Not that it conducts a war bond campaign directly and on the spot, but it keeps the collective mind on war bonds for 81 minutes and the effect is no less tangible because indirect. On top of which, it is the best of the Kyser pictures to date.

The script, by Joseph Hoffman and Al Martin, brings the Kyser group back from an overseas tour and precipitates the gang at once into a series of war bond-sales entertainments which disrupt their vacation plans to the distinct advantage of the Treasury Department. Against this framework the band performs in accustomed fashion, Miss Miller does her tap-dancing, also some singing and romancing, and Moore provides varied comedy in the portrayal of six different members of a monied family.

Production by Samuel Bischoff emphasizes diversity, musical numbers varying over a wide range, and direction by Leigh Jason allows nary a slackening of pace. "Thinkin' About the Wabash," by Jule Styne, Sammy Chan and Walter Bullock, and "Mr. Beebe," by Styne, Cahn and Dudley Brooks are the standouts in a score containing just about all the kinds of topical tunes there are.

Running time, 81 minutes. "G".*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Ghost Guns"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Nov. 20

FANS who have complained that there is too little riding in Western get what they have been asking for in this one, which occurs almost entirely on horseback and at headlong pace. In the pauses between mountings and dismountings, Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton dig out the truth about a gang of rustlers, land-grabbers and all-around bad men who have been terrorizing the Red River Valley, and apprehend the only three who are left on their feet after the final shot is fired. A lot of killing has been attended to before that, however, by both sides.

The film, directed by Lambert Hillyer, from a script by Frank H. Young, and supervised by Charles J. Bigelow, gets more diffused than most, by reason of the emphasis on riding furiously from place to place. It differs from most also in the attention it pays to the feminine member of the cast, who is Evelyn Finley and a right smart gal in the saddle as well as afoot.

Running time, 60 minutes. "G".* Release date, Dec. 23.

W. R. W.

*"G" denotes general classification.

Para. Names Castle to K.C. Advertising Post

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 20.—J. S. Castle has been named district advertising representative for Paramount in this area, which also includes St. Louis and Des Moines. He succeeds M. D. Cohn who recently joined Fox Midwest Theatres as manager of the Uptown Theatre here.

Castle was formerly with Fanchon and Marco in St. Louis.

CBS 39-Week Net Is Up to $3,399,080

Net income of Columbia Broadcasting for the first 39 weeks of 1944, ended Sept. 30, after all deductions, was $3,399,080 compared to $3,245,625 for the similar period last year. Earnings were equivalent to $1.98 per share this year, compared to $1.89 last year. Gross income for the first 39 weeks of 1944 was $42,893,757, compared to $37,333,566 for the same period last year.

The board of directors has declared a 60-cent dividend on the Class A and B stocks, payable Dec. 8 to stockholders of record on Nov. 24.

Industry Affected by Phone Strike in Ohio

(*Continued from page 1*)

with automatic dial systems are experiencing only partial transmission stoppages. Long distance calls are being seriously hampered.

The War Labor Board yesterday ordered the operators, some 4,000, back to work, declaring the walkout "a threat to the effective prosecution of the war." Mayor Frank Lausche of Cleveland, Ohio's governor-elect, sought a settlement through his municipal war production committee. Meanwhile the strike threatened to spread to Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Michigan.

Yates on Coast, Says Republic Limits Plans

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 20.—Reiterating that Republic's policy limits production planning to three months in advance, president H. J. Yates, who arrived here at the weekend, added, "It's definite that the American people don't want war pictures."

Technicolor Dividend

The board of directors of Technicolor has declared a dividend of 25 cents per share, payable Dec. 15 to stockholders of record at the close of business on Nov. 30.

Business Up 20%: Johnston

(*Continued from page 1*)

of distribution on the Continent, Johnston revealed. An office has been opened in Mexico City, he said, with Jack Lamont named managing director after having bought out the franchise holder there. Expansion in South America is contemplated, Johnston added.

The company has finished 20 pictures out of its promised program of 45 for 1944-45, Monogram's president stated. Included in the 45 are 33 dramas and 12 Westerns, he said. "They Shall Have Faith," a feature about infantile paralysis, has just been completed and will open simultaneously Coast to Coast during the week of the industry's "March of Dimes" drive, Jan. 25-31, Johnston said. Other big releases to follow, he said, are "Alaska" and "Little Devils," which have been completed, while "Divorce," with Kay Francis both starred and a co-producer, and "Sunbonnet Sue" and "The Golden Age" will be started after Jan. 1.

'More Big Pictures'

Johnston, who is here from the Coast with George Burrows, vice-president and treasurer, for a new issue of preferred stock, said that this additional capital will be devoted to "more big pictures," plant expansion, operation of the Mexican office and the reestablishment of a Paris office. He is currently negotiating with Emanuel and Co. on issuance of 100,000 shares of preferred at $10 par value, increasing the capital stock to 1,100,000. Monogram stockholders will meet Dec. 6 in Los Angeles to vote approval of the issue and to elect directors and officers.

Monogram operates its own exchanges in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Omaha, Des Moines, Oklahoma City, Minneapolis, has a half-interest in the Seattle and Portland branches.

Johnston will remain in New York until Nov. 29, returning to the Coast to preside at the annual stockholders' meeting.

Dub Four in French

Monogram will inaugurate a program of French-dubbed films on Nov. 27, when "Lady Let's Dance," goes into work here. At least three others are expected to follow. H. Alban Mestanza and Elaine Menno are in charge.

Contest for M-G-M's Novel Award Soon

Constance Smith, former fiction editor of *McCall's Magazine*, will conduct the 1945 M-G-M annual 'novel Award.' Started last year by the company, M-G-M calls for publishers, authors or their representatives to submit novels for approval. A cash award of $125,000 is given for the selected novel to the author, $25,000 to the publisher; M-G-M will also pay the author 20 cents compensation for every copy sold over 50,000 up to 300,000.

The company gets film, televesion and radio rights to the story. The 1944 award went to Elizabeth Goudge, for "Green Dolphin Street," for which she received $175,000.

Hollywood

BY THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 20

JOHN LARKIN, currently directing "Circumstantial Evidence" for 20th Century-Fox, has been given a new writer-director contract by that studio. . . . Leslie Brooks, previously announced for one of the leading roles in Columbia's "Men of the Deep," goes into "The Fighting Guardsman" instead, because of conflicting shooting schedules.

•

Peter Coe, Universal contract player, has returned to the studio after receiving a medical discharge from the Marines. . . . Adele Mara has arrived in Mexico to play the feminine lead in Republic's "Song of Mexico," which James A. Fitzpatrick is producing and directing as his first full-length feature. . . . Hunt Stromberg has borrowed Jane Russell from Howard Hughes to star in a production based upon the novel, "Young Widow." . . . The PRC producing unit consisting of Bernard Roth, Clarence Greene and Russell Rouse, which produced "The Town Went Wild," is preparing a second comedy to star Freddie Bartholomew and Jimmy Lydon.

•

Cameras are rolling on "Bedside Manner," Andrew L. Stone's next for United Artists, with Ruth Hussey and John Carroll co-starred and with Stone directing. Others in the cast include Ann Rutherford, Charlie Ruggles, Sterling Holloway and Frank Jenks. . . . M-G-M winds up "Son of Lassie" and "The Clock" this week. . . . Miles Connolly, M-G-M writer, is back at his desk following a leave of absence spent in New York. . . . Ilona Massey has signed a long-termer with M-G-M and will appear in "Holiday in Mexico" as her first. . . . Arch Oboler is now in the director classification with his launching of "Alter Ego," also at M-G-M. Jerry Bresler is the producer. The cast includes Phyllis Thaxter, Henry Daniels, Jr., Edmund Gwenn ad Kathleen Lockhart.

WE to Make Theatre Equipment Abroad

E. S. Gregg, vice-president of Western Electric Export Corp., returned from England yesterday following a seven-weeks' inspection of company activities and plans to have W. E. theatre equipment manufactured or assembled for the company in England following the war.

Gregg reported that Nazi V-2 robot bombs over Southern England were having some effect on theatre receipts. However, despite the somewhat increased frequency of attacks in recent weeks, exhibitors are still doing better than normal.

BMI to Release 2 More

The British Ministry of Information will shortly release here, through Hoffberg Productions, "A Date with a Tank" and "The Story of Father Cuyten," documentary war short subjects.

Fire Destroys Gem

MARIANNA, Fla., Nov. 20.—The Gem Theatre, a Martin-Davis house, has been completely destroyed by fire.

Unity Needed Among All Exhibitor Organizations

(Continued from page 1)

tre operators and independent circuits. Characterizing the practice as "organized disunity among exhibitors," the bulletin asserts that "many of the most representative and best organized state and regional exhibitor associations" are comprised of affiliated as well as independent members.

In addition, the bulletin terms 'dishonest' the representation of some exhibitor organizations which accept dues from affiliated theatres but advertise themselves as '100 per cent independent.' It contends that the only practical and workable organization plan now offered which permits exhibitor unity is MPTOA's system of granting proportionate representation to all classifications of member exhibitors in such a way that 'no faction, clique or minority' ever can control the organization.

Discussing postwar prospects, the bulletin says: "There is a great opportunity to build a real national exhibitor organization on this (MPTOA's) pattern, one that will be a more potent factor in industry affairs than has been possible in the past, by revitalizing and expanding the national MPTOA league of representative state and regional exhibitor associations."

"An expanded MPTOA," it adds, "can provide an adequately staffed national headquarters with a competent executive secretary, research and statistical experts, field investigators and a staff to provide reliable information and data on theatres, to keep in close touch with Government agencies in Washington and with Congress, eventually to develop public relations plans for theatres, methods of improving standards of operation."

It describes the task of uniting exhibitors as a "challenge to the leadership of all representative exhibitors," including those not now associated with a national organization.

The bulletin asserts that the decree is not likely to offer any vital relief or any early reforms and that the old and some new problems are certain to be confronted again when the present war boom has passed. It cites the danger of local taxation of theatres in the postwar period and observes that the exhibitors' national tax defense council, proposed some months ago, "probably cannot be resurrected at this late date, however badly it is needed."

'IA' to Query Jurisdiction Of 'Collarites'

(Continued from page 1)

groups in the industry, is understood to have set a meeting in Louisville, in January, to elect officers and formulate a program which will probably include demands of jurisdiction over film office help.

Involved are 3,000 film exchange office workers represented by the IATSE, 3,500 workers in Hollywood belonging to the Screen Office Employes Guild, Local 1391, affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Painters, Deocrators and Paperhangers, and about 800 "white collarites" in the home offices of Warner Bros. and Universal, who are represented by Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, AFL.

Several AFL international unions, including the teamsters, and hotel and restaurant workers, have already secured exemption of their "white collarites" from jurisdiction of the new office workers' international and it is expected that the IATSE will also seek exemption for the 3,000 film office workers which it represents at the New Orleans meeting.

It is expected that the IATSE might grant a charter to the MPOE with the SOEG continuing under the jurisdiction of the Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, thus removing all three from the jurisdiction of the new AFL international.

Decision by the IATSE to take jurisdiction over film salesmen locals is also expected if an agreement can be reached by IATSE officials with the AFL executive board.

'Together Again' Is 70% Over Average

CINCINNATI, Nov. 20.—"Together Again" is being sold heavily by RKO's Capitol, grossing an estimated $17,000, 70 per cent above the house average, and the best gross for this spot in recent months at a regular scale.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 22-25:

"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 6 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: 7 days, $13,500).

"Together Again" (Col.)
RKO CAPITOL — (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
"Strange Affair" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $2,400).

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 2nd week, on a moreover from the Albee. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500).

"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO-Goldwyn)
RKO LYRIC — (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 3rd week, following two weeks at the Palace. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).

"The Master Race" (RKO)
RKO PALACE — (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 4th week, following initial week at the Albee, plus two moveover weeks at the Capitol. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

20th-Fox Club Party

The 'Family Club' of 20th Century-Fox's New York exchange will hold a Thanksgiving dinner at the Cafe Zanzibar here this evening. Among home office executives invited are Tom Connors, A. W. Smith, Jr., W. C. Gehring, Hal Horne, Roger Ferri and others. Also scheduled to appear are Milton Merle, Carole Landis and Annabella. Joe Goldenberg is in charge of arrangements.

Slump Hits Capital, 'Boys', 'Island' Good

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—A slump seems to have hit here. "Rainbow Island" will barely nose to about $300 above average, while "Something for the Boys" should be $1,000 above.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 22:

"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Marjorie Knapp. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $22,000).

"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA — (1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,200).

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. On stage: Del Martins. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,700).

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
RKO-KEITH'S — (1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,600).

"Dead End" (UA—reissue)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN — (1,600) (35c-55c) 6 days, return engagement. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,200).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S PALACE — (2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $19,000).

Show 'Have' Dec. 18

National tradeshowing of Warners "To Have and Have Not" will be held Monday, Dec. 18.

Murphy WAC Head In Buffalo Area

Robert T. Murphy of 20th Century-Fox, in Buffalo, has accepted the post of War Activities Committee exhibitor chairman for the Buffalo exchange territory, according to S. H. Fabian, chairman of the theatres division here.

Murphy, active in WAC activities, succeeds Charles Hayman.

NLRB to Set Election

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 20.—After a short conference attended by representatives of the Screen Actors Guild, Screen Players Union and employing producers, the Labor Relations Board said here that the date for extra players to elect a bargaining agency will be fixed on Wednesday.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING

OF

"THE FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD"

Tuesday, Nov. 28th at (corrected time) 2:30 P. M.

RKO PROJECTION ROOM, 630 9th Ave., New York, N. Y.

TOPS IN STARS!
TOPS IN HITS!
TOPS IN BLUE-RIBBON AWARDS!

M·G·M SWEEPS EXHIBITOR VOTE IN BOXOFFICE MAGAZINE SURVEY!

Bonds Buy Bombs! Sock 'em with the 6th!

FIRST STAR OF THE SCREEN!

GREER GARSON VOTED TOPS BY THOUSANDS OF EXHIBITORS IN BOXOFFICE BAROMETER "ALL-AMERICAN SCREEN POLL"

EXTRA!

Miss Garson is upholding her honors as First Star of the Screen. "Mrs. Parkington" sets new M-G-M records at Radio City Music Hall and tops M-G-M's Biggest in advance engagements everywhere!

M·G·M "FIRSTS"!

It was the biggest exhibitor vote ever!

M-G-M FIRST! Largest number of "Top Hits"!

M-G-M FIRST! Highest percentage in "Top Hits" class!

M-G-M FIRST! Leading star of all—Greer Garson!

M-G-M FIRST! Most in male-female star vote!

M-G-M FIRST! Tops in female stars!

M-G-M FIRST! Most in place-winning male stars!

M-G-M FIRST! Tops "Blue Ribbon" Monthly Awards!

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP MGM

YOU'VE GOT TO BE GOOD TO BE A LEADER FOR TWENTY YEARS!

Let's Make the 6TH WAR LOAN A SIX-TON BLOCK-BUSTER!

EXHIBITORS

Back the Smashing Sixth with every resource of your theatre and all your ability as a salesman and showman! Open a planned campaign with a "WAR BOND PREMIERE"—BUY THE FIRST BOND YOURSELF—follow through—and finish with a record of *TWO BONDS FOR EVERY SEAT!*

PLAY TAPS FOR THE JAPS WITH
6TH WAR LOAN SHOWMANSHIP !!!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 99 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1944 | TEN CENTS

PRC Will Also Buy Theatres In Key Cities

Acquires Exchanges in 8 Cities in Nat'l Move

PRC Pictures will not only become a national producer-distributor, as expected, but will acquire, by purchase, theatres in key cities as well.

Leon Fromkess

Leon Fromkess, president of PRC, announced here yesterday that the company had acquired its own exchanges in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Des Moines, Detroit, Los Angeles, Omaha and Pittsburgh in the first tangible move to raise this states-right company to the status of a national distributor.

At the same time Fromkess dis-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Odeon Deal Is Concluded

TORONTO, Nov. 21.—The deal giving J. Arthur Rank a half interest in Odeon Theatres of Canada has been concluded by John Davis, Rank representative, and Thomas J. Bragg of General Theatre Corp., and awaits only ratification by Rank in England, it was learned here today. Official announcement is expected probably Friday. Purchase price, according to local film circles, is $5,000,000.

Carr in Paris to Set Eagle-Lion Exchange

LONDON, Nov. 21.—E. T. Carr, representative of J. Arthur Rank, is in Paris organizing an Eagle-Lion exchange and lining up potential bookings for Rank's films. If denied normal exhibition advantages in France, Rank may ultimately acquire an interest in existing circuits there, as reported earlier. The Gaumont circuit of about 60 theatres might be one of the first approached.

Schenck Announces Bonus for 4,500

A holiday bonus for 4,500 employees in Loew's home office branches, theatres and radio station WHN was announced here yesterday by Nicholas M. Schenck, president. The bonus is the same as last year.

Employees receiving up to $40 per week, and who have been with the company one year or more, will receive two weeks' pay, not to exceed $50; those getting up to $40 per week and with the company between six months and a year, will receive one week's salary, but not to exceed $25.

Official Washington Lines Up for Variety

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt, six more Senators. Greek Ambassador Cimon Diamantopoulos, 'Assistant President' Justice James Brynes and a number of additional high-ranking officers were today added to the long list of notables previously mentioned as guests at the 'Humanitarium Awards' dinner of National Variety Clubs, Friday evening, at the Mayflower Hotel. Secretary of State Cordell Hull will receive this year's annual award, for his efforts in behalf of world peace.

The six additional Senatorial guests include: Senators Tom Connolly, Carl Hatch, Warren Austin, Arthur Walsh,

(*Continued on page* 10)

Hanson Predicts a Minimum of 125 New Canada Houses

A minimum of 125 Canadian theatres will be constructed in the first two post-war years, Oscar Hanson, president of Monogram of Canada and active in various Canadian film enterprises, said yesterday. Hanson is here from Toronto on product talks with W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president.

The new construction is dependent, however, on persuading the Canadian government to grant permission for building, Hanson said. As an indication of the need for a widespread theatre building program in Canada, Hanson pointed to the situation in Toronto where, he explained, there are fewer first-run houses than in almost any comparable city in the North America.

Potentialities of the 16 mm. field after the war are such, Hanson

(*Continued on page* 9)

RKO's 3-Quarter Net: $3,634,863

Net profit of RKO and subsidiaries for the first 39 weeks of 1944, ended Sept. 30, was $3,634,863 after provision of $5,656,000 for taxes. This compares with a $5,008,074 net, after provision of $4,900,000 for taxes for a similar period in 1943, it was announced here yesterday from the company's home office.

Profit from operations, before taxes,

(*Continued on page* 10)

"Winged Victory"

[*20th Century-Fox*]

A VERY fine motion picture makes its bow in the Darryl F. Zanuck production of Moss Hart's stage success, "Winged Victory." A tribute to the Army Air Force, the dramatization takes its audiences with the air cadet through the training period to combat flying in the South Pacific. Yet it would be incorrect to classify "Winged Victory" a war picture. The war is little more than a backdrop against which are projected the hopes and aspirations of air-minded young men, and the dramas of their personal lives.

Taking for its central characters what must be a group of average candidates for the Army Air Force, "Winged Victory" presents them first in their home-town surroundings, then as air cadets and, finally, unveils the fate or fortune of each. One is eliminated from candidates' school, another is killed in a crash on a night training flight. Others go on to win their wings and become combat pilots.

Emphasis in the film is divided about equally between the training of Army fliers and the personal lives and fortunes of the central group of young men. The blending of the two narrative themes is so skillfully accomplished that the training sequences achieve a vitality beyond that

(*Continued on page* 9)

New Ginsberg Status Equal To Freeman's

Para. Studio Control is Spread to Outside Units

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 21.—Henry Ginsberg today signed a seven-year Paramount contract and, according to an official announcement made jointly by president Barney Balaban and vice-president Y. Frank Freeman, assumes "full charge of the management and operation of the Paramount studio, including all its production activities."

The switch in authority means that Ginsberg will control the activities of Hal Wallis and Buddy DeSylvia, Paramount's only outside units. In relationship to the rest of the schedule which Paramount itself makes, it is understood that Freeman until now has been the executive contact between the company and its independent

(*Continued on page* 10)

Schenck Picks 17 for 'Dimes'

Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's and national chairman of the industry's 1945 'March of Dimes' drive (Jan. 25-31) yesterday announced the following executive committee that will pilot the campaign, most of the members having served in the drives of 1944 and 1943: Barney Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, Harry Brandt, Oscar

(*Continued on page* 10)

$1,350,000 Sought in New Hillside Suit

Judge John Bright in New York Federal Court yesterday granted a petition by the Hillside Amusement Corp., operating the Mayfair Theatre, Hillside, N. J., to file an amended complaint against distributors bringing up to date damages claimed against them. In the original suit, triple dam-

(*Continued on page* 10)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Nov. 23, Thanksgiving Day and a legal holiday in New York and 39 other states.**

Personal Mention

EDWARD A. GOLDEN will leave New York for Hollywood around Dec. 5.

•

HERMAN W. GOLDSTEIN, son of JACK GOLDSTEIN of National Screen Service, has been advanced from second to first lieutenant. He is now stationed in Miami.

•

LENORE GILBERT, secretary to WILLIAM MORRIS, JR., and DAVID GOULD, former UA salesman recently discharged from the Armed Forces, will be married here tomorrow.

•

MRS. A. H. BLANK, wife of the president of Tri-States Theatre Corp., is seriously ill of pneumonia in the Des Moines Methodist hospital.

•

A. C. BROMBERG, president of Monogram exchange in Atlanta, will leave soon for the Coast to attend a company meeting.

•

CAPTAIN MONTY MACLEVY, formerly with theatre interests in Brooklyn, is the father of a son, Ross.

•

SOPHIE ROSENSTEIN, dramatic coach at Warner Bros. studio, will arrive in New York today from the Coast.

Eastman Quarterly Dividend Up to $2

ROCHESTER, Nov. 21.—A quarterly dividend of $2 a share, on common stock, up 75 cents from the last quarter, was declared today by Eastman Kodak's board of directors.

Under the Kodak wage dividend plan formula, thousands of eligible workers will receive increased profit-sharing checks next March as a result of the stock dividend increase. The wage dividend rate will be increased from three-quarters per cent to one and one-eighth per cent of total salaries earned in the years 1940, '41, '42, '43 and '44. This will approximate $11.25 per thousand earned in those years.

The directors declared the usual $1.50 dividend on the preferred stock.

Capstaff of Kodak Receives Fellowship

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 21.—John G. Capstaff of the research laboratories of Eastman Kodak, has been awarded an honorary fellowship in the Royal Photographic Society for "distinguished services in photography." Last month Capstaff received the "Progress Medal" of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers for developing motion picture technology.

Rally for War Fund

Warner Bros. will hold a rally for the New York War Fund at its home office today with returned war heroes as principal speakers.

Seven Stars Appearing at 3 to 10 Bond Rallies Daily

Seven Hollywood stars: Ingrid Bergman, Paul Lukas, Alexander Knox, Linda Darnell, George Murphy, Janet Blair and Franchot Tone, are now making from three to 10 appearances per day at bond rallies and defense plants on behalf of the Sixth War Loan drive.

Miss Bergman is visiting cities in Minnesota until Saturday, accompanied by Bob William, of Warner Bros. studio. Lukas will be in Ohio until Nov. 28, with Connie Krebs of the RKO studios. Knox and Miss Darnell are in Pennsylvania, the latter until Dec. 2 and the former through Nov. 26; Peggy McNaught of the 20th Century-Fox studio, is accompanying them. Murphy is in Massachusetts until Nov. 28, accompanied by Andy Hervey of M-G-M.

Miss Blair will visit cities in South Carolina Nov. 27 and 28, and in Georgia on Nov. 29 through Dec. 2; Norman Manning is accompanying her. Franchot Tone will visit cities in New York until the end of the drive.

Details of the plan were completed through arrangements with the Hollywood Victory Committee, the War Activities Committee and Harry Brandt, Sixth War Loan chairman.

Yesterday Murphy appeared before 2,000 workers at the Bethlehem Simpson shipyard in Boston, and later visited the Murray Co., executives of which bought $200,000 worth of bonds.

Brandt at Para. Rally: Pledge 'Over the Top'

Paramount employes in the New York metropolitan area pledged to go over the top in the Sixth War Loan at a rally in the home office yesterday, addressed by Harry Brandt, national chairman of the industry's drive, war heroes and Paramount executives.

The meeting was keynoted by Adolph Zukor, Paramount chairman of the board. Leonard Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatre operations, urged those present to sell bonds but first to buy "all we can ourselves."

After the meeting was opened by J. L. Brown, president of the Paramount Pep Club, Lucy Monroe led the audience in the national anthem. The speakers were introduced by E. A. Brown, chairman of Paramount's bond drive. Lt. Colonel Roswell P. Rosengren and Captain Raymond W. Wild, war heroes recited their experiences.

T-Sgt. Everett Winner addressed the meeting on behalf of the War Finance Division of the Treasury.

A musical interlude was provided by Marion Hutton, who appeared through the courtesy of R. M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount theatre. Brandt introduced William F. Crockett, industry vice-chairman, and Max A. Cohen, chairman of special events.

The rally concluded with the first showing of "Calling 1501 Broadway," a special film put together by A. J. Richard and his staff of Paramount News. Irving Singer, chairman of the Paramount Pep Club's special events, arranged the program.

'Graflex Sees the War' Set for 800 Houses

A fourth edition of "Graflex Sees the War," combat photograph exhibit series, will help stimulate the efforts of the industry during the Sixth War Loan drive, when more than 800 film houses exhibit the new 25-print show.

Presented in cooperation with the Treasury Department, the exhibit was assembled by The Folmer Graflex Corp. of Rochester, N. Y., from photographs taken by Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marine combat photographers on all the battlefronts.

Hartford Sets Record

HARTFORD, Conn., Nov. 21.—Local theatres reported an all-time high sale of $25,375 in bonds during the first 24 hours of the Sixth War Loan Drive. Manager Charles Snyder of the Lenox made the first sale of a $500 bond. Loew's Poli had more than 100 sales.

Ross Adds New Staff Of Investigators

A complete new division of trained former Government and State investigators has been added to the national staff of Ross Federal Service, drawn from the FBI, from United States marshals' offices and in New England from the Governor's office in Massachusetts.

Additional investigators added this week include John A. Hasselbrook, formerly attached to the Governor's staff in Boston, and John Gunn, detective in the New York Police Department.

PRC Dines Press

PRC was host to the trade press at dinner at Toots Shor's here last night, followed by a screening of "The Town Went Wild." Among officials present were Leon Fromkess, Leo J. McCarthy and Roberto Socas.

Court Denies Pleas In 'Rosie' Action

Federal Judge Francis G. Caffey has ruled in Federal District court here with respect to an action by Maude N. Jerome against 20th Century-Fox, claiming unauthorized use of her title and song, "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," in the film of the same name, that the action must be tried under the present copyright law, the Act of 1909, rather than the Copyright Act of 1891, as contended by plaintiff.

Welles in 'Tomorrow'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 21.—Orson Welles has been signed to co-star with Claudette Colbert and George Brent in International Pictures' "Tomorrow Is Forever," to be directed by Irving Pichel, from the novel by Owen Bristow, with a screenplay by Lenore Coffee. It will be produced by David Lewis.

Press Hits Rank On Rains' Salary

LONDON, Nov. 21.—In what is considered by film circles here to be an attempt at prejudicing the public on J. Arthur Rank's participation in this week's British Film Producers Association debate on the Board of Trade's film council monopoly report, the *Daily Express* today attacked Rank on the salary paid Claude Rains for his appearance in "Caesar and Cleopatra."

The newspaper pointed out that Rank has guaranteed Rains $48,000 after payment of taxes and that, at present war tax rates, this would amount to a salary of $1,200,000. "What official wartime dispensation authorizes this immense wartime payment?" the *Express* asks.

Plan First Specially Built Video Theatre

What is said will be the first theatre in the U. S. to be specially built and equipped for television will be constructed at 55th St. and 6th Ave. by the 1350 Sixth Ave. Corp., of which Elliot A. Daitz is president. Louis Allen Abramson is the architect.

Equipment will include a 300-foot directional antenna to be especially constructed for the theatre and the first of its type to be ordered. Negotiations are pending for leasing remaining building space to a restaurant chain.

1st French Releases Set by Warners

First group of pictures dubbed in French to be distributed by Warners in France include the following, representing a selection of releases here since the Nazi occupation ended the showing of Hollywood product in France:

"Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex," "All This and Heaven Too," "The Maltese Falcon," "George Washington Slept Here," "Air Force," "Sergeant York" and "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

No Offer Made for 5 Schine Theatres

BUFFALO, Nov. 21.—No offer having been received by Schine Theatres for the five theatres which it was supposed to have disposed of by Nov. 15, Federal Judge Knight here has been so notified, and the Schine circuit will retain the theatres temporarily.

The court ruled that Schine did not have to dispose of any of the theatres unless a bid was received equal to the amount of Schine's original investment in each house, and should receive a fair return for improvements made in each.

Trilling East in Month

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 21.—Steve Trilling, assistant to Jack L. Warner, Warner vice-president in charge of production, will leave for New York early in December to survey talent.

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ABOVE ALL
THEIR HEARTS
WERE STIRRED
BY ITS GREAT
LOVE STORY
THIRTY SECONDS OVER
TOKYO
THIRTY SECONDS OVER
TOKYO
THIRTY SECONDS OVER
TOKYO

Twenty years after "THE BIG PARADE" M-G-M celebrates its anniversary with a picture that tops it for thrills, romance and scenic magnitude.

THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO

"BONDS BUY
SOCK 'EM WIT

Twenty years after "THE BIG PARADE" M-G-M celebrates its anniversary with a picture that tops it for thrills, romance and scenic magnitude.

THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO

EYES ON THE N. Y. CAPITOL!

Watch the brilliant World Premiere engagement. The cheering throngs, the shattered records are tribute indeed to M-G-M's great motion picture and prophecy of things to come to your box-office.

★

BONDS BUY BOMBS!
"SOCK 'EM WITH THE 6th!"

"BONDS BUY
SOCK 'EM WIT

★

M-G-M's GREAT MOTION PICTURE

THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO

A MERVYN LEROY PRODUCTION

with

VAN JOHNSON
ROBERT WALKER

PHYLLIS THAXTER • TIM MURDOCK
SCOTT McKAY • GORDON McDONALD
DON DEFORE • ROBERT MITCHUM
JOHN R. REILLY • HORACE McNALLY

and

SPENCER TRACY

as

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES H. DOOLITTLE

SCREEN PLAY BY DALTON TRUMBO
BASED ON THE BOOK AND COLLIER'S STORY BY CAPTAIN TED W. LAWSON AND ROBERT CONSIDINE
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE
DIRECTED BY MERVYN LEROY • PRODUCED BY SAM ZIMBALIST

★

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
MGM

LITHO U.S.A.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 21

WITH four pictures currently in work and four more scheduled to face cameras within the month, Republic's physical facilities are being utilized to their utmost. "Three's a Crowd" is the latest feature to start, with Lesley Selander directing, and a cast which includes Pamela Blade, Charles Gordon, Gertrude Michael, Virginia Brissac and John Eldredge. "Johnny March," a Walter Colmes production for Republic release, is also before the cameras. "The Lone Texas Ranger," starring Bill Elliott, starts soon, and so does "Utah," starring Roy Rogers. "Heads It's Love" will go into work later in the month with Harry Grey producing and Albert S. Rogell directing.

•

"The Affairs of Susan," Hal Wallis' first film, will be ready for release in April or May, according to Joseph H. Hazen, president of Hal Wallis Prod., who left for the East today. He will return in January to help launch the production of "Don't Ever Grieve Me."

•

RKO has assigned Hilda Gordon to do the screenplay of her original, "The Lie Detector," which Herman Schlom will produce. . . . M-G-M will co-star Van Johnson and Lucille Ball in a romantic comedy titled "Early to Bed." Jack Cummings will produce. . . . Universal has renewed Maria Montez' contract for another year. . . . James Gleason will have a featured role in "First, Last and Always" at 20th Century-Fox.

•

G. B. Howe, for 13 years comptroller at RKO, will retire at the end of the year. No one has yet been named to replace him. . . . Ann Savage and William Gargan will be co-starred in the next Pine-Thomas picture at Paramount, "Cheezit, the Corpse". . . . The feminine lead in Columbia's "Out of the Fog" has been assigned to Lynn Merrick.

•

Dolores Moran has had her Warner contract renewed. . . . M-G-M director Vincente Minnelli and producer Arthur Freed are in New York on business. . . . Chester Morris' next vehicle for Columbia is temporarily titled "Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion."

•

Barbara Stanwyck and Paul Henreid will co-star in "The Two Mrs. Carrols," with Peter Godfrey directing after he completes "Hotel Berlin," at Warners. This was on Jesse L. Lasky's production schedule, but now goes to Robert Buckner. . . . The "Hotel Berlin" cast is headed by Andrea King, Helmut Dantine, Raymond Massey, Faye Emerson, Peter Lorre and Alan Hale. Lou Edelman will produce.

•

PRC producer Sigmund Neufeld has signed Lorraine Miller for the next Buster Crabbe Western, tentatively titled "The Barber of Red Gap." . . . Paramount has purchased "Feature for June," an unproduced play by Graeme Lorimer and Eileen Tighe. . . . Freddie Steele, former middleweight champion, has been signed for Lester Cowan's "G. I. Joe."

"Winged Victory"

(*Continued from page 1*)

of the intimate and detailed depiction of the processing of Army fliers, intensely interesting as is that processing in its own right. But this is no mere tour of a training center. Audiences will rejoice with the successful candidates; experience disappointment with the unsuccessful, and will share the grief of the desolate bride of the trainee killed on his first night flight.

Later, there are the last moments in San Francisco spent with their wives before the now full-fledged pilots and crew members take off for the South Pacific in the bomber they have named "Winged Victory." And there is the gala Christmas party and entertainment on a desolate South Pacific island, interrupted by an enemy raid, and the hopeful note on which the picture ends when the pilot, Alan Ross, learns that his wife has presented him with a new son.

GEORGE CUKOR has directed the original military cast from the stage play with brilliance. It is not difficult to predict that, with the screen's greater scope, this production will be found considerably more satisfying than the highly praised stage version. There are, for example, the opportunities of the larger screen canvas for depicting camp life, home life, flight training and war zone flying. One of the film's thrilling sequences derives from the latter, the landing of a heavy bomber with crippled landing gear and a wounded crew member aboard.

The cast is individually and collectively excellent. The servicemen members, comprising the picture's central group, are especially praiseworthy—Sgt. Mark Daniels, Pvt. Lon McCallister, Cpl. Don Taylor, and Sgt. Edmond O'Brien. The Army wives are played effectively by Jo-Carroll Dennison, Jane Ball, Judy Holliday and Jeanne Crain. Highly amusing contributions (for laughter as well as heart throbs figure importantly in the production) are entered by S/Sgt. Sascha Brastoff, Cpls. Jack Slate, Henry Slate and 'Red' Buttons as impersonators in a camp show. The screen play is by Moss Hart.

Music and song contribute their pleasant moments to the production, particularly the naturally-introduced choruses of Air Force songs. Sgt. David Rose is credited with music direction and Lt. Leonard de Paur with choral direction.

"Winged Victory" rates easily as one of the best motion pictures which have been made of the Army Air Forces. Proceeds from its distribution are to be contributed by 20th Century-Fox to various war funds.

Running time, 130 minutes. "G."* Release in December.

SHERWIN KANE

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Warner's 'Co-Pilot' Premieres in Macon

Macon, Ga., home town of Col. Robert Lee Scott, upon whose exploits "God Is My Co-Pilot," Warner film, is based, has been selected for the world premiere of the picture on March 15, Harry M. Warner, president, announced here yesterday. A committee representing the city has been in New York conferring with Warner officials. Among them were Mayor Charles Bowden, Lamarr Swift, city manager for Lucas and Jenkins Theatres, Carmage Walls of the Macon *Telegraph and News*, and Ellsworth Hall, Jr., city attorney.

Clearance Case Is Filed by Davestan

Davestan Amusement Co., operating the Kent Theatre, Newark, has filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies in the New York tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Complainant charges that all clearances granted to the Regent Theatre, operated by the Broadway-Carteret Corp., also Newark, by the distributors, are unreasonable and seeks their elimination.

Glover Young Promoted

William M. Cotton, president of Ideal Women's Group, reports the appointment of Glover M. Young as director of advertising.

Young was for many years on the Chicago staff of *Good Housekeeping* and western manager of both Dell Publishing Co. and *Smart Set Magazine*.

Macaulay Legion Post Installs New Officers

BOSTON, Nov. 21.—At the annual installation of the Macaulay Post, American Legion, the following were installed: Edward Dobkin, commander; Harry Spingler, senior vice-commander; John F. Foley, junior vice-commander; Richard C. Sullivan, adjutant; Joseph Kantor, finance officer; Dr. A. Edward Milincoff, chaplin.

Named to the executive committee were: Harry Smith, Patrick F. Healey, Kenneth Forkey and Alvin G. Kenney. Harry Browning heads the committee.

Legion Classifies Eight New Pictures

The Legion of Decency has classified the following: A-1, "Crazy Knights," Monogram; Nevada," RKO; "Sergeant Mike," Columbia; "The Town Went Wild," PRC. A-2, "Enter, Arsene Lupin," Universal; "Guest in the House," United Artists. Class B, "Blonde Fever," M-G-M, and "Ministry of Fear," Paramount.

New Post for Lt. Putnam

Lt. George F. Putnam, former NBC newscaster and 20th-Fox Movietone commentator, now with the Marines, has been assigned to represent the Corps in the Armed Forces Radio Service, Washington.

Walsh Now Represents 15

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21. — Joe Walsh, former Columbia salesman, who organized his own booking service in July with four accounts, now represents 15 exhibitors.

Hanson Predicts a Minimum of 125 New Canada Houses

(*Continued from page 1*)

claimed, that it bids fair to become a greater industry in Canada, than the 35 mm. industry. Pointing to the factors that favor development in this field, Hanson said that 16 mm production costs, run only to 25 per cent of standard films; 16 mm. film stock and processing are cheaper, and equipment costs, are much lower.

Through Hanson 16 mm. Films Co., currently handling M-G-M and Monogram 16 mm. films for Canadian Army camps, there will be established, Hanson said, a company for the production of films for educational, political, religious and kindred organizations. Already the Province of Ontario has allocated a considerable sum for the development of a visual education program and only awaits the procurement of equipment to implement such a project, said Hanson.

16mm Production

Hanson said he was acquiring necessary equipment for the production of 16 mm. films which would start as soon as he secures approval of the Canadian government. He expects this to be forthcoming after the war and will then open offices for 16 mm. business "in every Canadian exchange center." At the same time, Hanson said, he will open a string of 30 retail stores in Canada to supply 'home films' with commentaries.

Paul Nathanson, Empire-Universal and Odeon Theatres head, is associated with Hanson in his various enterprises, being the majority stockholder of Pioneer Film Holding Co., with Hanson the minority stockholder.

Canadian theatres have been able to conserve projectors fairly well, Hanson said, but they are sorely in need of replacements for carpets and seats.

The Canadian government, which controls television in that country, will probably make television first available to theatres, in Hanson's opinion.

TBA to Make Three Awards at Meeting

Three gold medals will be awarded for outstanding contributions toward the development of television from the standpoints of individual effort, technical improvements and outstanding program production, at the first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association at the Hotel Commodore here Dec. 11-12.

Paul Raibourn, president of Television Productions, Inc., Paramount affiliate, and a member of the TBA board, is chairman of the awards committee.

B. C. Vohwinkle Dies

BUFFALO, Nov. 21. — Bernard C. Vohwinkle, 69, of Lockport, oldtime exhibitor and for many years with Basil Brothers Theatres, died here following a heart attack.

Sam Weltman Killed

BUFFALO, Nov. 21.—Sam Weltman, former owner of the Liberty Theatre, Syracuse, has been killed in action in Germany. He is survived by his widow and a two-year-old child.

PRC Will Also Buy Theatres In Key Cities

(Continued from page 1)

closed the company's intentions of building to major producing proportions and to establish a circuit of an unknown numerical quantity. PRC's board of directors has already approved all moves.

The franchises acquired are those of the following: Cincinnati and Cleveland, Nat and Jack Lefton; Dallas, Jack K. Adams, Jr.; Detroit, Bill Flemion; Los Angeles, Samuel K. Decker; Pittsburgh, Lew Lefton. The company has previously acquired those in Des Moines and Omaha.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Monday reported that PRC would be a national distributor within 10 months, under plans for speedy expansion determined by the wealthy Young interests which control PRC, through Pathe Laboratories; by the management, as headed by Fromkess, and by the company's board of directors, which has been meeting here daily for weeks for the purpose. Fromkess stated yesterday that PRC expects to acquire and operate "a major portion of its domestic distribution" by next May 1.

High-Budget Policy

"PRC has adopted a policy of higher-budgeted pictures, for which purposes the company acquired, last year, its own studio in Hollywood," stated Fromkess, adding: "The board of directors has approved further increases in budgets for the balance of this season's program." Originally, PRC was committed to eight "A" productions this year, previously announced as costing between $250,000 and $400,000; it is now probable that these will be extended to 12, according to reports which also hold that "well-known producing talent" will soon be engaged by PRC.

Not yet announced by the company are the engagements of Henry Brash, former United Artists producer, and Fred Jackson, each of whom may produce three for PRC.

More Salesmen

PRC's announcement did state: "Approval has been given by the board of directors with respect to proposals by major producing units which will distribute through PRC's exchanges. Negotiations covering these deals have been going on for some time, and will be concluded upon Fromkess' return to Hollywood next week."

"An announcement regarding added sales personnel will be forthcoming by Leo J. McCarthy, PRC's general sales manager, within the near future; such new personnel will include the appointment of three additional divisional sales managers," the company added.

Film Music Discussion

Deems Taylor will discuss the influence of the motion picture on music education, following the playing of the sound track of Universal's "Can't Help Singing," at the Fall meeting of "The In-and-About Music Educators Club of New York," Dec. 2, at the Hotel Plaza, New York.

Short Subject Review

"When Asia Speaks"

(United Artists-World in Action)

A documented story, powerfully told and carefully drawn, of how the forces of understanding are breaking down prejudices of Western nations against the so-called "Asiatic War." Dramatic scenes show the industrialization of the Far East.

This timely film, given the best in production values, also carries the warning: "If we are to attain enduring understanding among peoples, the Allies must get to the East with democracy before Hirohito gets the Eastern nations, only now awakening to their potential greatness." The National Film Board of Canada deserves much credit for this release, part of its World in Action series. Stuart Legg wrote an excellent commentary, spoken by Lorne Greene. Running time, 19 mins.

New Ginsberg Status Equal to Freeman's

(Continued from page 1)

units. With all other production his responsibility, it is further understood that Ginsberg found this situation untenable and maintained that all production should focalize through him. That he now assumes full charge means he has won his point.

The new contract, tearing up a current pact which had two years to go, is the result. Balaban, who will fly East tomorrow, came West to straighten out the situation.

Ginsberg's expanded duties are also believed to mean that his authority at the studio will be parallel with Freeman's and that both will proceed from here out on an identical basis.

$1,350,000 Sought in New Hillside Suit

(Continued from page 1)

ages totaling $900,000 were asked for allegedly depriving the Mayfair of product. The new action charges a continuance of the alleged conspiracy from Feb. 1941, date of filing of the original action, adds $150,000 more to the damages, claimed, which, tripled, makes the amount $1,350,000. There was no opposition to the filing of the new action. The court also set back the examination before trial of Joseph Schenck in connection with the suit, from today to Nov. 27.

Exonerate Chevalier

The "Music Halls Purge Committee in Paris" has given "a clean bill of health" to Maurice Chevalier, stage and screen star, after investigation of suspected "collaborationist activity" during the German occupation, according to press dispatches received here yesterday from Paris.

Joyce to UA Publicity

CHICAGO, Nov. 21. — Fred Joyce, with the 20th Century-Fox exploitation staff here, has resigned to become Midwest publicity head for United Artists, succeeding Claud Morris, who resigned to become Eastern exploitation director for Sam Goldwyn.

Diana Lynn Boosts 'Gay' in Providence

PROVIDENCE, Nov. 21.—"Laura" and "Babes on Swing Street" continued strong at the Majestic and will be moved to the Carlton for a third week downtown. "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" grossed $11,200, above average, at the Strand, where Diana Lynn made a personal appearance Tuesday.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 23:

"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-60c) 8 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,-800).

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $10,500).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $17,700).

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,-100).

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"They Live in Fear" (Col.)
CARLTON — (1,526) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from Loew's State. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).

"Dead Man's Eyes" (Univ.)
FAYS—(1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. On stage: Mary McClanahan, Eddie Lambert Co., Don Dorsey, Dean Carroll, Barbara Belford, Byrne Sisters. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $7,000).

"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
METROPOLITAN — (3,050) (60c-75c) 3 days. On stage: Louis Prima and his orchestra. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $6,500).

Official Washington Lines Up for Variety

(Continued from page 1)

Theodore Green and Kenneth McKellar.

Heads of film companies, Will H. Hays, stage, screen and radio stars, scores of executives and others from the industry and related fields will attend. To earlier lists were added today the names of A. C. Gates, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Air Arm; R. W. Coyne, Treasury Department; Walter Brown, State Department; Rear Admiral W. B. Young; Rear Admiral Ben Morrell, 'father of the Seabees'; Col. Curtis Mitchel, Army Pictorial Services; Col. Frank McCarthy, Army Special Services; Major Alfred Bendell; Tom Baily, Treasury liaison.

Additional industry representatives listed today include: J. Robert Rubin, Ben Kalmenson, Tony Muto, Edmund Reek, Leo McCarthy, A. J. Richards, Charles Reagan, Neil Agnew, Hugh Owen, Edward L. McAvoy.

3 New Corporations File in New York

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 21. — New incorporations here include:

Hollywood Producers, Inc., to engage in motion picture films, Manhattan, incorporated by Murray J. Lefcourt, A. Robert Goldman and Helen Bennard; Court Boulevard, by Elias Bloomgarden, Morris O. Strausberg, Stanley Kolbert, and Ameche Enterprises, incorporated by Edith Brown, Ethel M. Taft, and Corinne Frank.

New WB Screenings

Warner reports that henceforth special screenings of short subjects will be held for newspaper and magazine critics due to a new interest in short product displayed by newspapers and magazines.

'Mrs. Parkington's' $33,500 in Phila. Over Par by $13,500

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 21. — Business continues fair in downtown houses with holdovers predominating. "Mrs. Parkington," at the Stanley, the only major opening, points to a large over average on a neat $33,500, with an additional $4,500 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 22-24:

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay"
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,400. (Average: $14,600).

"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,750. (Average: $4,000).

"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,000).

"The Last Ride" (WB) 6 days
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (40c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Count Basie's band, James Rushing, Earle Warren, Jo Jones, Pops and Louie, Patterson and Jackson, Thelma Carpenter and Shorts Davis. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $27,600).

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,700. (Average: $20,500).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 9 days, 2nd run. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $6,600).

"The Great Moment" (Para.)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 6 days, 2nd run. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,800).

"The Conspirators" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,900. (Average: $22,500).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $33,500. (Average: $20,000).

"Brazil" (Rep.)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $9,400).

$3,634,863 RKO Net Profit for 39 Weeks

(Continued from page 1)

for the first 39 weeks of 1944, was $10,293,035, compared with $11,914,-106 for the same period last year. Allowances for depreciation were $979,856, compared with $966,888 last year. The company made a $1,000,000 provision for contingencies and post-war adjustments last year but did not make any such a provision this year.

Dividends paid during this year to date on common and seven per cent preferred stock of a subsidiary company in the hands of the public was $22,315 against $39,142 last year.

The 1944 figures are subject to audit and adjustment at the end of the calendar year.

Schenck Appoints 17 On 'March of Dimes'

(Continued from page 1)

A. Doob, Gus Eyssell, S. H. Fabian, Harry Kalmine, Malcolm Kingsberg, Charles C. Moskowitz, Herman Robbins, Spyros Skouras, Joseph R. Vogel and Richard Walsh.

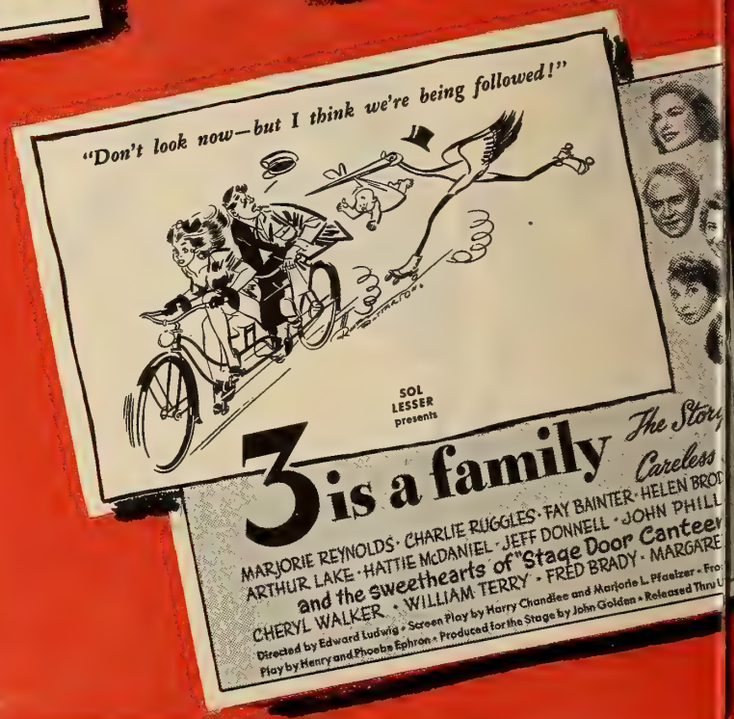
Ernest Emerling of Loew's was named to act again as public relations chairman; Tom Connors will be exchange committee chairman, and Leonard Goldenson will be home office committee chairman. Walter Vincent again will serve as treasurer. Schenck will announce state chairmen in the near future.

HERE'S THE
CAMPAIGN THAT'S
GOING TO

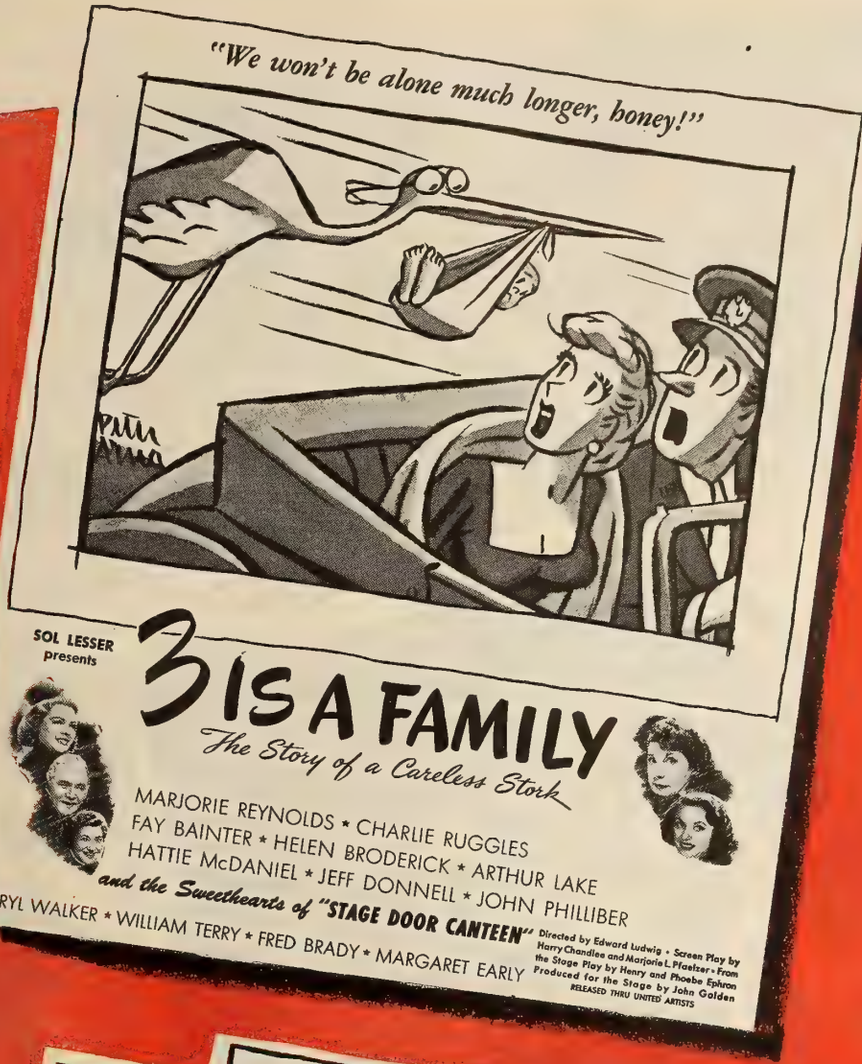
TICKLE

MR. and MRS. AMERICA
INTO

12,000
THEATRES



Art work by the country's
Picture from the famous stage play seen by
Produced by



PROFITS via good old U.A.

's most famous cartoonists
by millions in key cities throughout the land.
by SOL LESSER

RKO RADIO PICTURES

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES'
GREAT TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA

★

NORMANDIE THEATRE

51 East 53rd Street, at Park Ave., New York, N. Y.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28th

at 10:30 A. M. Sharp

RANDOLPH SCOTT
GYPSY ROSE LEE
DINAH SHORE
BOB BURNS

in

"BELLE OF THE YUKON"

Produced and Directed by WILLIAM A. SEITER

with CHARLES WINNINGER

WILLIAM MARSHALL • GUINN "BIG BOY" WILLIAMS
ROBERT ARMSTRONG • FLORENCE BATES • and
those GORGEOUS YUKON BELLES • Written for the
screen by JAMES EDWARD GRANT
Story by Houston Branch • Music and
Lyrics by JOHNNY BURKE
and JIMMY VAN HEUSEN
Released by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.

GOOD ENTERTAINMENT IS *INTERNATIONAL!*

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 100 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Building Code Seen Halting New Theatres

Dowling Testifies as to NYC Zoning Changes

Robert Dowling of the New York City Citizens Zoning Committee testifying at pre-holiday public hearings before the Board of Estimate here on proposed amendments to the city's zoning ordinances, which would serve to limit the size of all future theatre and other buildings, to provide more air and light, declared that he knows of several proposed theatres, construction of which could not proceed on the basis

(Continued on page 6)

Probe Canada Tax For Postwar Plan

TORONTO, Nov. 23.—George H. Beeston of Empire-Universal Films has been appointed to a Toronto Board of Trade committee which will review the wartime taxation structure of the federal government with a view to recommending modifications to help private enterprise meet the problems of conversion to a peacetime basis. This action was taken at the annual meeting of the board's motion picture branch.

RKO Trend Toward Musicals: Dozier

Present trend in RKO production is toward musical and period films, and comedies, and away from war films and topicals, according to William Dozier, executive assistant to Charles W. Koerner, studio production head, who is in New York to see some Broadway plays.

Dozier disclosed that "Koerner's

(Continued on page 7)

Annual Film Gross $1,365,200,000

Annual gross box office receipts approximate $1,365,200,000, based on the weekly box office attendance of 95,000,000 estimated in the new Quigley Almanac, just out, and the generally accepted 28 cents average admission.

Boom On for O'Donnell

By AL SHERMAN

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—A big boom for the reelection of Texas circuit operator Robert J. O'Donnell to the post of national chief barker of Variety Clubs of America is under way here tonight, it was learned in an unofficial, first-hand survey of delegates arriving for the annual convention of the showman's organization now in session at the Hotel Statler.

Cordell Hull

Despite the reluctance of delegates to publicly comment, it is quite evi-

(Continued on page 7)

Fuel Situation to Remain 'Critical'

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Exhibitors were warned Wednesday by Interior Secretary Harold L. Ickes that supplies of all fuels will become "increasingly critical" right up to the end of the war, despite possible increases in production.

Urging commercial and industrial consumers to save all possible coal, oil and gas, Ickes announced the appointment of coordinators in the Eastern and Middle West states to promote a national fuel efficiency program which is being sponsored by the Government.

More Independents Seen in MPPDA

The independent membership ranks of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America will be further strengthened, it is understood, by the expected addition to the Hays roster of at least three more companies: David Selznick's Vanguard Pictures, the Leo Spitz-William Goetz International Pictures, and Hal Wallis Productions, in which he is associated with Joseph Hazen.

PRC Theatres In Midwest

PRC will purchase a number of theatres in the Midwest key cities, in its move to become a national producer - distributor - exhibitor, Leon Fromkess, president of the company, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday before leaving for the Coast. The theatres will be purchased as "showcases" for PRC product, "wherever possible"; the number depends on price conditions and availability. PRC's announcement of its plans of distribution and exhibition were disclosed here Tuesday.

Fromkess revealed that he plans to maintain the present staffs of the newly-purchased exchanges and will add to these staffs when personnel becomes available.

PRC has purchased the physical properties of the exchanges, as well as the franchices.

Fromkess will return from the Coast shortly after the first of the year. New production deals will occupy part of his time while there.

"3 Is a Family"

[*United Artists-Sol Lesser*]

Hollywood, Nov. 23

HERE is a situation-comedy, leaning decidedly toward farce. As a play by Phoebe and Henry Ephron, "3 Is a Family" was produced in New York by John Golden. Thereafter, Sol Lesser bought it and this is the result. He and United Artists have a click comedy attraction on their hands. No theatreman, conscious of his box office, will want to enter a dissenting vote.

The locale is New York. The time is now. The housing shortage is acute. The place is a small apartment occupied by Charles Ruggles and Fay Bainter, who play husband and wife, and by Helen Broderick, Miss Bainter's sister. Marjorie Reynolds, the daughter, is married to Fred Brady, naval lieutenant. They have baby twins, and what a cuddling, delightful pair Donna and Ellisa Lambertson are! The daughter visits the parents, loaded down with the complex and vast assortment of equip-

(Continued on page 7)

Warner Cites Theatres' Aid In Army Gift

$7,000,000 to Date Goes to Army Relief from 'Army'

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The fund raised by "This Is the Army" for Army Emergency Relief has passed the $7,000,000 mark. Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., called at the War Department here yesterday and presented the 7,000,000th dollar, together with an accounting of results from "This Is the Army" to date, to Gen. George C. Marshall, Army chief of staff. Warner paid tribute to the the-

Harry M. Warner

(Continued on page 6)

U.S. Gives Guide to Actors' Salaries

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The Internal Revenue Bureau has given the producers another guidepost on the question of salaries in a ruling that the compensation given an actor by one company on a flat deal for a sin-

(Continued on page 6)

French Get Request For Industry Visas

The French consulate in New York is compiling a list of those in the American film industry who have applied for passports to France, the list, to be transmitted to the French government in Paris. The film division

(Continued on page 7)

Also Reviewed Today

In addition to the review of "3 Is a Family," United Artists-Sol Lesser, appearing in adjoining columns, a review of "The Thin Man Comes Home," M-G-M, appears on page 3; also "Hi, Beautiful," Universal, page 7.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, will leave New York for the West Coast for conferences with CHARLES W. KOERNER, production head, on Dec. 1.

•

B. V. STURDIVANT, Northern California division manager of Fox West Coast Theatres, and national director of the Army-Navy War Exhibit, returned to his San Francisco headquarters this week from the exhibit's first public showing in New York and Washington.

•

SGT. ANTHONY PETTI, former personnel director for Universal at the home office, has been transferred from Esler Field, La., to Camp Howze, Texas.

•

PAUL NATHANSON, head of Empire-Universal and Odeon Theatres of Canada, and MRS. REVA NATHANSON, are the parents of a baby girl born in the General Hospital, Toronto.

•

HERMAN RIPPS, M-G-M Albany manager, has returned to his headquarters after two days at the home office conferring with E. K. O'Shea.

•

R. J. INGRAM, division manager of Columbia in Atlanta, is in Jacksonville, conferring with executives of Florida Theatres.

•

LT. LEWIS F. BLUMBERG, son of N. J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, has been transferred from Hondo Field, Texas, to Alexandria, La.

•

MAX FRIEDMAN, Warner circuit film buyer and booker for upstate New York, returned to Albany yesterday from New York.

•

ROY HAINES, Western and Southern division sales manager for Warner Bros., returned Wednesday from a Midwest tour.

•

SAM GARDNER, M-G-M Salt Lake City manager, has returned to his home base after several days in New York.

•

MERRITT DAVIS, Republic Southern division manager, has returned to Atlanta from Dallas, after meeting there with J. R. GRAINGER.

•

ALAN F. CUMMINGS, M-G-M exchange head, will return today from a week in Atlanta.

•

OSCAR HANSON, president of Monogram of Canada, has returned to Toronto from New York.

•

E. L. ALPERSON, independent producer, will leave the Coast today for New York.

•

LEON FROMKESS, president of PRC left for the Coast yesterday.

•

BUDD ROGERS has returned to New York from Hollywood.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 23

STEADILY, under steam generated to its effective degree, International goes its way. The company organized and made its plans for four this season without any visible concern, or surface interest, in a release; then came the deal with RKO which closes out with "It's a Pleasure."

Without distribution, "Along Came Jones," Gary Cooper's first as producer-star, is shooting. Orson Welles has been signed for "Tomorrow Is Forever," in which Claudette Colbert will star when the picture gets moving in February. "The Countess of Monte Cristo" has been acquired for Sonja Henie under a new agreement. That makes three of a minimum of four for the 1945-46 market on some currently unknown program.

■

International's maiden quartet is adding strength to RKO's overall program. "Casanova Brown, as one case in point, probably will do about $2,500,000 domestically. It appears a reasonably good guess, therefore, that RKO will be courting International for another year. Will International be a party to the romance? The answer is in the affirmative column, but between courtship and consummation could be something else again. There are other admirers around, too.

Not as persistent as they once were, but hanging on diligently anyway, are conversation pieces about an expanded sphere of activity for International—some sort of a setup in which the company will control and dominate.

What do Bill Goetz and Leo Spitz say to all of this? Very direct, and in one word: Nothing.

■ ■

The love of open spaces, very open, is a required attribute for those who cover Hollywood previews. You just keep on traveling.

Now, traveling around this community and broad environs is all right if an individual has enough of the fluid necessary to motive power. When he hasn't, he frequently wonders why some studios, hull down on the Hollywood horizon, insist upon running many pictures on their lots, as many more in theatres a sleeper jump away and occasionally a lone wolf in a house convenient for the majority. There are always reasons, however.

The weirdest of them all, however, concerns a film for which pseudo apologies were offered because it was brief by comparison with the producer's usual crop. Here goes:

"We can't preview a little picture like this in a theatre—it's a good little picture, mind you but it only runs about an hour—because a theatre audience expects a previewed picture to have some big names, or something like that, and a little picture like this would only get a letdown. Then the producer would say we hadn't given him a fair break."

■ ■

Amusing is the story—and true—about delusions of grandeur and a realistic sales manager. The studio was attacked badly by roadshow virus. Nothing less would suffice but advanced prices at two-a-day for more attractions than the field possibly could have absorbed. And that ignores any and all considerations as to whether roadshow values properly belonged.

The sales manager first considered entering objections in one-two-three order. Then he switched, and this is how:

He agreed with the studio, said he was too busy on his regular job and observed the proper way to sell roadshows was to organize a special roadshow department. But someone else would have to handle it.

The squeeze play unsqueezed. Roadshows, roadshow department and those delusions of grandeur were heard of no more. However, next year is another year.

■ ■

Gene Kelly has been inducted into the Army, and Metro patriotically regrets.

But Clark Gable is back and expected to resume work after the first of the year. Bob Montgomery is on the Navy's inactive list; thus he, too, returns to the studio's stellar roll call.

Viewing the inevitable for its inevitability, Metro is content. Two-for-one is a ratio hard to lick.

Hollywood's Pan-American Musical Romance!
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647
REPUBLIC THEATER
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
Irene DUNNE + Charles BOYER
'TOGETHER AGAIN'
with Charles Coburn
A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ 10TH WEEK—RIVOLI ★
BROADWAY AND 49TH STREET

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
CARY GRANT
IN
"None But the Lonely Heart"
WITH
MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE
BARRY FITZGERALD

Alan Ladd ★ Loretta Young
in PARAMOUNT'S
"AND NOW TOMORROW"
In Person
GLEN GRAY and the Casa Loma Orchestra
ANDY RUSSELL
JERI SULIAVAN
SON & SONNY
WALLY BROWN and ALAN CARNEY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

STATE
ON SCREEN
First N. Y. Showing!
M-G-M's
'AN AMERICAN ROMANCE'
IN TECHNICOLOR
starring
BRIAN DONLEVY
IN PERSON
CARMEN AMAYA
JOE BESSER

★★ VICTORIA ★★
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
WILSON
IN TECHNICOLOR

June Haver - Dick Haymes
Monty Woolley
'IRISH EYES ARE SMILING'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
Plus On Stage —
RAY BOLGER - GRACIE BARRIE
WALTER NILSSON - CARR BROTHERS
PLUS LATEST 'MARCH OF TIME'
BUY MORE BONDS
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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NLRB Sets Dec. 17 For Extras' Voting

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 23.—The National Labor Relations Board has set an election for Sunday, Dec. 17 for extra players to vote their preference between the Screen Actors Guild, Screen Players Union, or neither, as collective bargaining agent. The voting will take place at the NLRB office here.

Heeding protests by 10 studios that some players eligible to vote would be away at the time, the NLRB provided a procedure for absentee balloting. All extras employed 30 days or more in the past year are eligible to vote on the issue, long bitterly contested by the rival unions.

Extras in SPU Poll

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23.—W. W. Rarity and Co., public accountants, have been retained by the Screen Players Union to authenticate the extra players' balloting to determine awards for outstanding achievements in pictures, to be conducted in February. The SPU poll is similar to that of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which recently excluded extras from its list of professionals eligible to vote in its annual canvass.

Field Exploiteers of 20th Meet on 'Victory'

Field exploitation representatives of 20th Century-Fox will meet at the home office tomorrow to discuss plans for the national campaign of Moss Hart's "Winged Victory," according to Rodney Bush, exploitation manager.

The sessions, which will continue over the weekend, will be conducted by Sidney Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager. Field men who will attend include: Spence Pierce, Leonard Allen, Bill Michaelson, Mike Weiss, Seymour Freedman, Wally Allen, Al Fowler, Al Winston and Ralph Stitt.

Boston Sets Opening For Bing's 'John L.'

BOSTON, Nov. 23.—Milton Crandall has arrived in Boston to arrange for the premiere of "The Great John L.," produced by Bing Crosby and to be released through United Artists. The premiere is scheduled for sometime in January. Crosby and Bob Hope will be on hand for the opening.

Prior to the premiere a banquet will be given for Massachusetts mayors and members of a 'citizens' committee. Other events to tie up with the opening include athletic contests which will be held at the Boston Gardens and at which Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney are expected to appear.

3 New Companies Incorporate in N. Y.

ALBANY, Nov. 23.—Three companies here have been incorporated, as follows: Monarch Pictures, Inc., New York, with Mildred Mahon, Louise Hummel and Helen Zill as directors; Anver Theatres, Inc., with Thomas Herman, Philip F. Schneider and Gertrude C. Herman as directors; Dorsey Corp., directors of which are Belle V. Porter, Mindell Lustgarten and Marie Metzler.

Review

"The Thin Man Goes Home"

(M-G-M)

Hollywood, Nov. 23

IT'S good to have Nick and Nora Charles and their screwball helter-skelterisms back again. Let's hope they stay after their three years' absence.

William Powell, naturally, is Nick again. He is a bit older, of course, and a bit paunchier as he gracefully acknowledges to one of his childhood neighbors at Sycamore Springs. Myrna Loy, naturally, is Nora again. She has those inescapable years added on, too, but a mere 36 months have detracted nothing from her looks and her charm, her frequently shaken faith in her fictional husband's sanity and her unflinching confidence in his ability to unravel crime at its most baffling. Asta, the famous wire-haired terrier, seems to have stopped the calendar in its, or his, tracks completely; he's still quite a show on his own.

As a matter of fact, the original story by Robert Riskin and Harry Kurnitz, based on the characters created by Dashiell Hammett, is ingenious, clever and bright. The Thin Man had to be returned after his long siesta. It's done neatly by taking him into the country to visit his parents.

The purpose is a vacation and, while they don't precisely say so, it's the war and the shortage of liquor which puts Nick on a program of cider when memory recalls it once was something considerably different. Yet while the purpose was a holiday, there would have been no story and consequently no picture if crime hadn't raised its nefarious head. Crime obliges, in the usual shape of murder which is solved in due order. The motivation is well hidden until Nick demonstrates those terrible oil paintings are a cover-up for the plans of a new propeller factory which an enemy government would give eye teeth—one anyway—to get its hooks into. Suspicion, of course, is made to veer from one person to another and, in keeping with the requirements of solid mystery writing, finalizes on the person least of all suspected. That portion of the attraction is substantial in construction and bewilderments, but "The Thin Man Goes Home" does not rely solely upon straight murder and confusion.

The zanie antics which were a hallmark of the earlier members of this series are on hand. This time, they are geared to the war and the home front. There is, for instance, a very funny episode in a crowded day coach and a panic sequence in which Nick rids himself of Nora by putting her in the hands of a rug-cutting sailor. What he puts her through is to see and to howl over, not to experience. Sometimes you get the fun from the devastation of the dance itself. Much of the time it is by indirection in the form of large close-ups of Nick and his reactions. Either way, and both ways, it's uproarious.

Riskin developed the screenplay from his collaborative original along with Dwight Taylor. The contagion traveled along the line from the cast, which includes Harry Davenport, Gloria De Haven, Lucile Watson, Helen Vinson, Leon Ames, Anne Revere, Donald Meek, Lloyd Corrigan and Edward Brophy, to Richard Thorpe, the able director, and to Everett Riskin, the competent producer. M-G-M ought to be happy with this one. Exhibitors and audiences assuredly will be.

Running time, 98 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

RED KANN

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Myers Heads Canada Gov't Distribution

TORONTO, Nov. 23.—Robert E. Myers, former headoffice booker of Famous Players Canadian, has been appointed director of theatre distribution for Canada and foreign countries by the National Film Board, of which John Grierson is commissioner.

Myers has also been in charge of film distribution in the Canadian Navy and will retain that post.

Seek Vote Change

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23.—The shorts subjects branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has proposed to the rules committee that judging of shorts for the annual award be done by the Academy's full membership, which numbers 690, instead of by officers and the board of governors only as in previous years.

Donovan, Sarnoff Go Up

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23—President Roosevelt has promoted Col. David Sarnoff, RCA president on leave of absence, and William J. Donovan, formerly of RKO counsel, to the rank of Brigadier General.

217 Additional Runs Buy Monogram Line

Nine additional circuits comprising 217 theatres, have been signed for the Monogram program for 1944-45. Contracted were: Fox Midwest, with 94 theatres in Kansas and Misouri; Harris-Voeller, with 14 houses in Idaho; R. E. Griffith, 25 in New Mexico; H. J. Griffith, 27 in Kansas and Missouri; Black Hills, 10 in South Dakota and Nebraska; Joseph L. Lawrence, eight in Utah; Atlas Theatres, 11 in Colorado; Simons Amusement, 22 in Idaho and Montana; Civic Theatres, five in Denver.

Baldwin with Vanguard

Jack Goldstein, Eastern director of publicity and exploitation for David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films, has appointed Ted Baldwin, formerly in charge of promotion work for Columbia Pictures, as a member of his staff. Baldwin will assume his new duties on Monday.

Warners Books PRC

The Warner circuit in New Jersey and in the Albany-Buffalo territories has booked 1944-45 PRC product.

Raibourn, Larsen To Address TBA

Highlights of the first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association, Inc., to be held at the Hotel Commodore here Dec. 11-12, will be panel discussions on the role of films and the theatre in television. Paul Larsen of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers is chairman of the theatre panel and William Morris of the Morris Agency will present performer side of the issue.

Among speakers will be Paul Raibourn, Paramount, whose subject will be: "How Theatres Can Use Television," Ralph Austrian, RKO, and Ralph Beal, RCA Laboratories, who will speak on "Television Broadcasting as Related to Theatre Television."

Stars Participate

Stars of screen, radio and stage who are scheduled to participate in discussions include: Ed Wynn, Garson Kanin, Walter O'Keefe, Jessica Dragonette, Richard Mandel and Leo Horowitz. Dorman D. Israel, vice president of Emerson Radio and Phonograph Corp., is in charge of arrangements for the discussions.

Representatives of seven of the nine television stations currently operating will address another panel discussion. The group will be headed by Samuel H. Cuff, general manager of DuMont Television station WABD, New York, and will also include Robert Gibson, General Electric station WRGB; Comm. William Eddy of Balaban and Katz station WBKB; Klaus Landsberg of Television Productions, Inc., station W6XYZ; Harry R. Lubcke of Don Lee station W7XAO; Paul Knight of Philco's WPTZ; and John T. Williams of NBC's station WNBT. Mrs. Jarmila Kennedy will be secretary of the panel.

ASCAP Not to Have Own Headquarters

The board of directors of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers on Wednesday rejected a proposal to move from its present site at Radio City to a three-story building at Park Avenue and 59 St. Rejected building had formerly housed the Anderson Art Galleries.

The Radio City lease continues for another year, until late 1945, but ASCAP has no other plans, even a year hence for moving, it was said. Originally the board had considered a 21-year lease on the Park Avenue building.

Delay Selecting WAC Distribution Head

Members of the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee, at a meeting here on Wednesday, failed to select a new division chairman to succeed Ned E. Depinet whose term will expire at the end of the year. A further meeting will be held next Monday.

The annual meeting of the WAC will be held here next Thursday.

Hickey to 'Classics'

ATLANTA, Nov. 23.—Walter T. Hickey, formerly with Monogram Southern exchanges, has joined Film Classics here, under John W. Mangham, to cover this territory.

Business is really Something

...because th

First engagement — Pittsburgh — soared past "Sweet Rosie O'Grady"! And that's the swift pace it has set in 39 other spots to date!

"Big box-office!" —*Film Daily*

"Will be hailed by exhibitors and audiences!" —*Hollywood Reporter*

"Do extra exploitation—it's big!" —*Showmen's Trade Review*

"Expertly fashioned!" —*The Exhibitor*

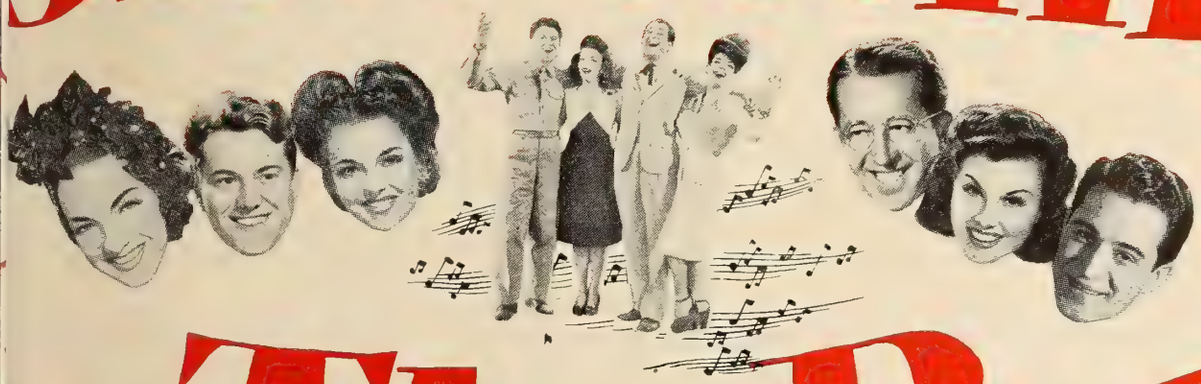
"Packs plenty entertainment!" —*Daily Variety*

20th CENTURY-FOX

...far ahead in hits with "LAURA" • "WILSON" in Technic

icture's something wonderful!

omething r The Boys



in Technicolor

CARMEN MIRANDA • MICHAEL O'SHEA • VIVIAN BLAINE "The Cherry Blonde" in "SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS" with Phil Silvers • Sheila Ryan • Perry Como • Glenn Langan • Directed by LEWIS SEILER • Produced by IRVING STARR • Photographed in Technicolor • Screen Play by Robert Ellis, Helen Logan and Frank Gabrielson • Based on the Musical Comedy Book by Herbert and Dorothy Fields • Cole Porter Songs Music and Lyrics New Songs by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson • Dances Staged and Directed by Nick Castle

RISH EYES ARE SMILING" in Technicolor and "THE SONG OF BERNADETTE"

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

Warner Cites Theatres' Aid In Army Gift

(Continued from page 1)

atre owners of America for their part in making the gift to Army Relief possible in his report to Gen. Marshall.

"The sum could not have been raised without the magnificent and wholehearted cooperation of the theatre owners of the country who are responsible for a substantial portion of the total," the report said, explaining that "Thousands of theatres held special premieres, total proceeds from which were paid into the Army Fund. Exhibitors of the country not only showed the picture at terms favorable to AER but also gave the picture extended playing time and generally handled the picture in such a manner as to bring the greatest possible return to AER," Warner said.

Warner also paid tribute to Irving Berlin, author of "This Is the Army"; Michael Curtiz, director of the film, and the artists who participated in the film. He cited for special tribute the many Army officers and enlisted men whose "splendid cooperation and wholehearted efforts were so important to the success of the production."

'Accounting Due AER'

Stressing that "in times of war, when so many are called upon to give so much, anything that we at home may do is negligible compared to the sacrifices of the men and women at the battlefronts," Warner said that he nevertheless felt that "an accounting was due the officers and men who carry on the great work of AER and to the thousands of theatre owners who gave a part of their receipts to AER and to the millions of theatregoers who paid admission to see the picture."

In his report, Warner disclosed that the original intention of the company was to give 50 per cent of the profits from the film to AER, but it was subsequently decided to turn over 100 per cent of the profits to AER, an act "enthusiastically approved" by the company's board of directors.

Wodehouse Arrested

P. G. Wodehouse, 63, British author and humorist, who was in Hollywood for a year as a writer, and several of whose stories have been filmed, has been arrested in Paris on charges of aiding the Germans by his broadcasts from Berlin in 1941, it was reported here in dispatches from Paris. It is also reported, that through intervention of the British Government, he may be released by French police provided he leave France.

Loew's, Ltd. Dividend

TORONTO, Nov. 23.—For the first time since 1921, Marcus Loew Theatres, Ltd., here, which operates two local houses, has declared a dividend on common shares. The company will pay one dollar per share on Dec. 30. The current regular dividend of $1.75 for the quarter-year has also been declared on preferred shares, likewise payable at the end of this year.

Kingsberg Plans 123 War Bond Premieres in N. Y.

The first series of War Bond Premieres in theatres of all the major circuits and many independent houses in the New York area has been set by the industry's local War Activities Committee, of which Malcolm Kingsberg is chairman.

These premieres, which bring features to local theatres before their regular engagements, are presented at a special performance to which admission is obtainable only through the purchase of Sixth War Loan Bonds in theatres.

Besides 57 already set, and the 16 special premieres for children, the committee members, Charles C. Moskowitz, James M. Brennan, Sam Renzler and Edward Rugoff, expect that the theatres will have about 50 additional bond premieres.

Upstate N. Y. Well Organized for 6th

ALBANY, Nov. 23.—C. J. Latta, Warner zone manager, is chairman of the industry's upstate bond drive committee, and Clayton G. Eastman, branch manager for Paramount, is chairman of the distributors' committee.

Working with Latta are: Sid Sommers, Milton Schosman, Saul Ullman, Joe Shure, Charles Smakwitz, Neil Hellman, Guy Graves, Sid Dwore, William C. Smalley, Charles Gordon, Andy Roy, Sid Kallet, J. Myer, Louis W. Schine, Jim Papayanakos, William Benton and Henry Grossman.

Heavier Concentration On Chicago Premieres

CHICAGO, Nov. 23.—Twenty-five Bond Premieres, against 36 in the last drive, have been set for the Sixth War Loan campaign here, in order to give each premiere a more concentrated promotional buildup, Larry Stein, drive publicity chairman, reports. At a meeting of the 25 managers of the premiere houses, Stein outlined the campaigns.

The Chicago *Herald-American*, Hearst daily, has subscribed to back the premieres. The Navy will supply captured Jap materials for display in all 25 theatre lobbies, while the Army will furnish jeep rides to bond buyers on premiere day in the neighborhoods of the premiere theatres. Loop premieres will be held in the State-Lake, Palace, and Oriental.

California Owners and Newspaper Combine Drive

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 23.—Theatres of Southern California and the Los Angeles *Herald-Examiner* have set a goal of 550,000 individual war bond sales, 50,000 more than their quota during the Fifth War Loan Drive, as a joint effort for the sixth.

Combining the resources of the 650 houses in this area and the paper, purchasers of war bonds in theatres will witness previews as well as personal appearances of stars, attend network radio broadcasts, stage shows, auctions and other special events. Gus Metzger is in charge of the combined campaign.

W. F. Crockett Buys $25,000 in Bonds

William F. Crockett, vice chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan drive, has purchased $25,000 of bonds.

Crockett, a partner in the Bayne-Roland Theatres, Virginia Beach, Va., and president of the Virginia MPTO since 1937, pledged the purchase at the Sixth War Loan 'Statue of Liberty' in Times Square.

'Creek' Cracks All Newman Records

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 23.—"Frenchman's Creek" broke all records for the Newman with a score of around $29,000, even overstepping the big record made by "Going My Way."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 21-24:

"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10.500. (Average: $9,400).
"Together Again" (Col.)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Frenchman's Creek (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $10,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: $112,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine" (Mono.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $10.500. (Average: $9,400).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,600).

Censors Appoint Berrier

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23.—Mrs. Edna R. Carroll, chairman of the Pennsylvania State Board of Censors, reports that Joseph Berrier has been named officer in charge of inspection, violation and enforcement. Berrier was once associated with the board, resigning in 1936.

U. S. Gives Guide to Salaries of Actors

(Continued from page 1)

gle picture will not be recognized as the basis for increasing the weekly salary he received from another company and vice versa.

As an example, the Bureau cited a flat deal with "X" Corp. under which an actor receives $10,000 for the picture, on which he was expected to be and actually was employed only four weeks. The actor's last employment was for the "Y" Corp. at a salary of $1,000 a week, and the bureau held that approval by the salary stabilization unit of the deal with "X" may not be deemed to be approval for an increase in the actor's weekly salary rate from $1,000 to $2,500.

"It appears that there is no fixed relationship between the amount paid on a daily or weekly basis to an employe and the amount which he might be paid when the salary payment is for the completed job," the bureau explained. "Accordingly approval of an application for payment by the completed job will not be deemed to be an approval of a daily or weekly salary rate for an employe for the purpose thereafter under the specific assignment rule at a daily or weekly salary rate in excess of the daily or weekly salary rate theretofore established or approved for such employe."

New Building Code Seen as Impediment

(Continued from page 1)

of the new zoning revisions proposed by the City Planning Commission.

Dowling, whose organization also represents film distribution and exhibition interests, including M-G-M, Paramount and 20th Century-Fox, later told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that plans for proposed film theatres on Broadway, between 45th and 46th Streets; on the empty site next to the Roxy Theatre; another on 53rd St. and Sixth Ave., and others, would be nullified if the zoning amendments in their present form are adopted.

Claiming that the zoning amendments would deprive buildings of 31 per cent of their ground space, Dowling said that it would be impossible to erect new theatres on sites at present inhabitated by existing buildings as the owners of the land, utilizing 100 per cent of the ground area, would not willingly sacrifice such a high percentage for new buildings. Similarly, he pointed out, in those vacant lots where theatre buildings are projected, a high, towering building would of necessity have to be erected to get back the value which the property would be deprived of if almost one-third of the ground area were sacrificed because of the new zoning amendments. These high buildings would be unfeasible for theatre structures, said Dowling.

Last week, Leo Brecher, mid-Manhattan theatre operator, attacked the proposed amendments, using as an example the difficulties which he would face in erecting a new theatre, now in blueprint form. He said that his new house would have to be slashed from a plot area of 7,500 feet to 5,875 feet.

The Board of Estimate is expected to vote on the proposed zoning amendments Nov. 30. If no action is taken, they automatically become law on Dec. 1.

Cleveland Will Have Two Chief Barkers

CLEVELAND, Nov. 23.—Local Variety has elected two chief barkers to serve, Meyer Fine of Associated Circuit and M. B. Horwitz of Washington Circuit. Election of the two men was agreed upon to meet the demands of running theatres and conducting a successful club.

Tony Stern, Warner Theatres, was elected first assistant chief barker; I. J. Schmertz and Edwin R. Bergman, both of 20th-Fox, were reelected treasurer and secretary, respectively. Outgoing barker is Bernard Kranze, RKO.

Lambs Honor Vitale

The Lambs Club will honor Joseph Vitale, now in RKO's "None But the Lonely Heart," at a theatre party tonight at the RKO Palace here where the film is playing. Jack Whiting and Ward Wilson are in charge of arrangements.

Palmeri in WB Sales

Vincent Palmeri, formerly manager of Warner's Merritt Theatre, Bridgeport, Conn., has been transferred to the distribution department in the home office. He will probably be assigned to the foreign department.

Boom On for O'Donnell

(Continued from page 1)

dent that O'Donnell's name, when submitted, will win the election.

A business session will precede the Humanitarian Award dinner to be held tomorrow evening in the Mayflower Hotel at which the award will be designated for Secretary of State Cordell Hull, for his peace efforts, before a representative group of more than 500 dignitaries from the amusement world and from Washington political and social life. In the absence of Secretary Hull, who is confined to a hospital, the award will be accepted by Under-Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius.

Presentation of the award will be made by Albert Kennedy Rowswell, chairman of the Humanitarian Awards Committee, who will be introduced by John H. Harris, 'big boss' and founder of Variety Clubs. O'Donnell will be toastmaster.

A round of festivities has been planned for the visiting delegates, according to Carter Barron, chairman of the banquet committee, culminating in a dinner-dance at the Hotel Willard Saturday evening, sponsored by Washington Tent No. 11, at which the announcement of the new national officers will be made. Another event will be the induction of Sammy Baugh, Redskin football star, as honorary member of the Dallas tent during the Redskins' football game at Griffith stadium on Sunday.

Streamlined this year to conform to U. S. Government requests to conserve transportation and hotel facilities, each Tent has sent only a limited number of 'barkers' to represent them at this war-time gathering during which they will discuss past and future cooperation with the various war activities groups of the industry and a continuation of Variety's charitable work.

The national tent is represented by O'Donnell, Harris, Carter Barron and Earle Sweigert, assistant national chief barkers; Marc Wolf, dough guy; Lou Rome, property master; Chick Lewis, publicity director; and James G. Balmer, ceremonial barker.

French Get Request For Industry Visas

(Continued from page 1)

of the French Ministry of Information here is understood to be acting as a consultive to the consulate.

Not long ago, the State Department announced that nine countries previously blocked off by the war, have been declared open to civilian travel without the requirement of military approval, including most of France. The Department warned, however, that travel facilities to and in these countries are severely limited, and only trips by Americans contributing to the war effort would have a chance of clearance through the Department, it was said.

Areas for which military permits are no longer required include: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Syria, Lebanon, Turkey, Cyprus and those parts of France which are no longer a scene of military operations.

"3 Is a Family"

(Continued from page 1)

ment required to keep the infants going. Lots of other couples drop in sooner or later, all of them impending fathers and mothers. A son, Arthur Lake, and his wife, Jeff Donnell, are on the verge of parenthood, too; in fact, it's an epidemic. They live downstairs, are threatened with eviction, are about to move in with the parents and what sizes up as a neat cross-section of the United States Navy.

Ruggles is a Milquetoast sort of fellow, but an endearing one. He's handy with a diaper and a baby bottle. He is not so handy with his investments, but this time and when all seems lost, his latest 'flier' returns him $5,000 for $2,500.

Anyway, babies are well on the way all over the apartment. The twins are believed lost or kidnapped. The maid problem passes through a daily change-over and a daily crisis, climaxed by the slap-happy appearance and performance of the well-rounded Hattie McDaniel. She rates No. 2 for laughs. No. 1 is John Philliber who is the decrepit, fossil-like Dr. Bartell who can't see very well, who walks into closets, knocks over furniture, thinks 1944 is the Victorian era, but who manages to deliver one baby at home because the hospital has its S.R.O. sign out, too. Philliber is a running gag, but this actor, who died a few days ago, is so funny in his odd characterization that howls will greet him, beyond the shadow of any doubt.

The film is mad. It is a telescoping of all the inconveniences and the upsets which, for one reason or another, confront the civilian population in these times of war. But it is hilarious and entertaining to an extreme and probably the best hammer-at-the-ribs comedy to hit the screen since "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek."

Therefore, the credits automatically must include Harry Chandlee and Marjorie L. Pfaelzer for their screenplay and Edward Ludwig for his fast, well-paced and appreciative direction. Advertising-wise, there ought to be values in stressing that four members of the cast of "Stage Door Canteen" figure in this. They are: William Terry, Cheryl Walker, Fred Brady and Margaret Early. All the principals evidence competence and skill.

Running time, 80 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

RED KANN

"Hi, Beautiful"

(*Universal*)

Hollywood, Nov. 23

MARTHA O'DRISCOLL and Noah Beery, Jr., who turn in consistently good performances, deserve better material than that afforded by this vehicle. Miss O'Driscoll sings three songs with presence and charm, and a few more would have added to the picture's effectiveness.

The screenplay, by Dick Irving Hyland, who is also the associate producer, as based on a story by Eleanore Griffin and William Rankin. It is a tale of young love, without much to recommend it in the way of novelty or interest. The dialogue, too, misfires.

Leslie Goodwins' direction, and a supporting cast which includes Hattie McDaniel, Walter Catlett and Tim Ryan, are largely responsible for the entertainment.

Running time, 64 minutes. "G"* Release date, Dec. 8.

THALIA BELL

*"G" denotes general classification.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 23

LT.-COL. SAMUEL BRISKIN has been awarded the Army's Legion of Merit. . . . Diana Lynn will be starred in "Feature for June," which Paramount purchased recently. . . . John Hodiak will have the male lead in "The Red Quarter" at 20th Century-Fox. Joseph Stanley Pennell has been signed to do the screenplay.

•

Dr. Edouard Frischauer and Count Degenhard Wormbrand have joined Gustav Machaty's newly-formed independent company, Gong Productions. . . . Paramount has given Ann Thomas, Broadway comedienne, a long-term contract. . . . Harry James and his orchestra have been signed by 20th Century-Fox for the forthcoming color musical, "Kitten on the Keys." The bandleader will have a featured acting role in the film.

•

Henry Levin will direct "The Fighting Guardsman" for Columbia. "Out of the Fog," for which he was previously announced, has been assigned to director William Castle. . . . Universal has picked up its option on the services of David Bush. . . . Craig Reynolds has been added to the cast of "The Lost Weekend" at Paramount

•

"No Leave, No Love," an original by Charles Martin, which will star Ginny Simms, has been added to Joe Pasternak's schedule for early production at M-G-M. . . . Walter Goetz's next assignment at Republic will be "Tell It to a Star." . . . Anita Louise has been named by Columbia for one of the top roles in "The Fighting Guardsman." . . . Charles R. Rogers has embarked upon a nationwide search for an unknown to play the title role in "The Varga Girl."

RKO Trend Toward Musicals: Dozier

(Continued from page 1)

present production policy is to keep the costs of pictures down as a bulwark against falling off of box office returns."

RKO has two films coming up on the subject of rehabilitation of returning servicemen, according to Dozier. The first, "Enchanted Cottage," already in production, modernizes the Sir Arthur Wing Pinero play written at the end of the last war; the second, "Tomorrow Is Here," is to be made with the cooperation of the Army.

Dozier pointed out that there is better screen material in current Broadway plays than in many years. He added that the producers are not in a hurry to sell their plays to film companies, attributing this fact to the tax situation.

Cadman to Monogram

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 23.—R. J. Cadman, formerly with Universal in San Francisco, has become Monogram branch manager here.

M-G-M TRADE SHOWINGS NEW DATES!

New York - New Jersey Territory Only
M-G-M Screen Room — 630 Ninth Ave.

'MAIN STREET AFTER DARK'
'NOTHING BUT TROUBLE'
Tuesday November 28
9:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M.

'NATIONAL VELVET'
Tuesday December 26
10:30 A.M. & 2:30 P.M.

'THIS MAN'S NAVY'
'MUSIC FOR MILLIONS'
Tuesday January 2
9:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M.

"None but wonderful Raves!"

CARY GRANT

IN

"None but the Lonely Heart"

WITH

Miss ETHEL BARRYMORE

BARRY FITZGERALD JUNE DUPREZ • JANE WYATT

GEORGE COULOURIS • DAN DURYEA ROMAN BOHNEN • KONSTANTIN SHAYNE

Produced by David Hempstead • Directed by Clifford Odets

Screen Play by Clifford Odets • From the novel by Richard Llewellyn

RKO RADIO PICTURES

ALTON COOK, N.Y. World-Telegram:

"An enduringly great picture . . . 'None But The Lonely Heart' is a title that will keep reappearing on movie marquees for years and years."

BOSLEY CROWTHER, N.Y. Times:

"A film of haunting moods and desperate yearnings . . . Such a sensitive and warmly revealing and poetically lovely film that one may feel wonder and amazement at seeing it on the screen . . . Will be remembered—and revived—long after many current favorites are forgotten."

WANDA HALE, N.Y. Daily News:

"A satisfying adaptation of Richard Llewellyn's fine novel. The acting by the star, Cary Grant, and his distinguished support, Ethel Barrymore and Barry Fitzgerald, goes deep into the heart."

ARCHER WINSTEN, N.Y. Post:

"It provides that rarest of novel experiences, characters and events which are not predictable . . . Highly recommended to all people who want to see fresh new movies."

HOWARD BARNES, N.Y. Herald-Tribune:

"Cary Grant is wonderful. Ethel Barrymore is magnificent, and Barry Fitzgerald, George Coulouris and all the others are superb."

ROSE PELSWICK, N.Y. Journal-American:

"Cary Grant and Ethel Barrymore give brilliant performances."

WALTER WINCHELL:

"A dramatic symphony in tune with your emotions."

Despite Brooklyn, Noel Coward Holds

TORONTO, Nov. 23.—With the controversy over what Noel Coward said about Brooklyn in his latest book being widely publicized, it was interesting locally that his "This Happy Breed" continued at the Uptown Theatre for a third week for an expected $9,300 gross. Topnotchers were "The Impatient Years," at the Imperial Theatre, and "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," at Shea's, both of which pointed to $13,300.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 23:

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-49c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $11,200).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
"This Happy Breed" (British)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,800).

Rites for Mrs. Deaner

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23.—Funeral services were held here Tuesday for Mrs. Frances Deaner, editor in the drama department of the *Examiner*. Mrs. Deaner, former head of the magazine and foreign publicity department at 20th Century-Fox in Hollywood, died after a brief illness. Interment was at Petaluma.

'Together', 'Whistler' Play a Nice Tune

DENVER, Nov. 23.—"Together Again" on a dual at the Denver led the field this week with a gross of $22,500 while the Paramount showing, "Alaska" and a re-release of the "Kid from Spain" was second with $13,900.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 20-23:

"The Conspirators" (WB)
"Babes on Swingstreet" (Univ.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,600).
"The Sign of the Cross" (Para—re-release)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Together Again" (Col.)
"The Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Together Again" (Col.)
"The Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $6,750. (Average: $4,500).
"Alaska" (Mono.)
"Kid from Spain" (Re-released)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $13,900. (Average: $9,300).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $6,150. (Average: $5,000).

W. B. Manager Buys 2 Phila. Theatres

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23.—Robert Nisenson, manager of Warner's Nixon and former representative for Warner Bros. in Germany, has purchased the Roxy and Boro, neighborhood houses here, from Samuel H. Stiefel. Nisenson is a brother-in-law to Harry Warner. Stiefel, who still operates the Carmen here and other theatres in the East, recently left for California to enter the production field as head of Mickey Rooney, Inc.

21 WORDS THAT SPELL CHRISTMAS BOND SALES!

•

PUT THIS MESSAGE IN YOUR 6th WAR LOAN LOBBY

"The War Bonds You buy this Christmas

Speed the Christmas when you may say—

Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men"

•

Ross Federal Service, Inc.

$28,000 in 'Frisco For 'Private Affair'

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23.—"Marriage Is a Private Affair" took the lead here this week with an estimated $28,00 at the Fox.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 21-23:

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
"The Great Mike" (PRC)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
"When the Lights Go On Again" (PRC)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,500).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $27,000).
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $25,000).
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,748) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"My Buddy" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $28,000).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Shadow of Suspicion" (Mono.)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-64c-85c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $13,000.)
"The Conspirators" (WB)
"End of the Road" (Rep.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000).

'Marriage Private' Is Public's Choice

BUFFALO, Nov. 23.—Thanksgiving week will see the top spot going to "Marriage Is a Private Affair" at the Buffalo with an anticipated $16,000. Others were off. The weather here is cold and rainy.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 25:

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 6 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,400).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,900. (Average: $16,200).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 5 days, 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $9,700).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
"My Buddy" (Rep.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $12,200).
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
"They Live in Fear" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,900. (Average: $12,400).

'Marriage', 'Saddle' Hold Against Weather

OMAHA, Nov. 23.—Making the best of a rather poor week were "Marriage Is a Private Affair," hitting $10,100 at the Paramount Theatre, and "Tall in the Saddle" and "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore," dualed at the Brandeis. Weather was chilly and rainy.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 22-23:

"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore" (Mono.)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,700. (Average: $6,400).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week for "Arsenic and Old Lace," on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $7,400. (Average: $8,400).
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-55c-70c) 7 days. Milton Britton's orchestra on the stage. Gross: $12,400. (Average: $14,900).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $11,700).

'Princess' and 'Wolf' Double L. A. Averages

LOS. ANGELES, Nov. 23.—"The Princess and the Pirate," coupled with "My Pal Wolf," was off to virtually double-average business in the Pantages-Hillstreet tandem, getting $62,000 where $33,800 is par. "Laura" and "Three Little Sisters" were strong in the Chinese-Fox Wilshire-Loew's State-Uptown foursome.

Final checkup of receipts disclosed that "Since You Went Away" grossed $224,818 in its recent four-week run at the Egyptian, Los Angeles and Ritz, beating the four-week record of the next highest grosser by more than $20,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 22:

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,900).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
FOX-WILSHIRE—(2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,500).
"Strange Affairs" (Col.)
"Underground Guerrillas" (Col.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,700).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $18,500).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $34,500. (Average: $29,300).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $25,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $15,300).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
"National Barn Dance" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $11,900).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
"National Barn Dance" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $19,500).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $12,500).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,500).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,905. (Average: $16,700).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,610. (Average: $18,700).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,914. (Average: $15,800).

To Honor Joe Brown

Jack Benny, Rudy Vallee, Orson Welles and other screen personalities will participate in Joe E. Brown's "Stop or Go" radio show Sunday night in tribute to Brown who is observing his 44th anniversary in show business. The veteran comedian, now 53, has traveled 100,000 miles during the present War entertaining Fighting Forces as a memorial to his son, Capt. Don E. Brown of the AAF, killed in a plane crash.

Jap bomb splashes in sea, astern of American carrier. Official U. S. Navy Photograph.

Join the Navy *cameramen* and see the war

Death by night. Inferno-like glare illumines a battle in the central Solomons. Official U. S. Navy Photograph.

Seasoned gunners hold their ears as a U. S. battleship pours shells at point-blank range. Official U. S. Navy Photograph.

THE Navy's in at the beginning of every big show. And right up front where nothing can get between them and their pictures, you'll find the Navy's Combat Photography Units.

In the Navy, as in all the armed forces, combat photography owes much to "the movies." The movies have sent a lot of their young cameramen to war. Many of those too old to go have served as instructors, turned "green" kids into capable cameramen in an amazingly short time.

And of course movie men with movie methods edit, cut, and mold separate "shots" into finished productions that help plan and fight the war . . . that provide the very best kind of training films . . . and that bring the war to us at home. The Navy combat cameramen's pictures are the basis for an illustrated history of war at sea such as the world has never seen.

Eastman Kodak Company
Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. Brulatour, Inc., *Distributors*
Fort Lee Chicago Hollywood

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war

'Trolley Song' Recording Clangs End of 27-Month Petrillo Battle

By Peter Kihss

A buzzer signaled for quiet, a red light flashed, Vaughn Monroe started his baton on the downbeat, and at twenty-eight seconds past 1:43 p. m. yesterday the first RCA Victor instrumental phonograph recordings in twenty-seven months were under way.

The offering, attuned to the jive fans and timed for the Christmas trade, was "The Trolley Song," with blonde Marylin Duke as vocalist with Mr. Monroe. Miss Duke sang at the studio at 155 East Twenty-fourth Street minus shoes and stockings. "I [illegible] get lower down and clo[illegible] micr[illegible] the

make only a capella recording vocal backgrounds, the de[illegible] had been "the greatest eve[illegible] said, civilian buyers being by war plants seeking re[illegible] play during working hours.

Shellac shortage was when the Federal governm[illegible] cut companies to 20 per pre-war use, Mr. Desfor s[illegible] present allotments are bac[illegible] per cent, swelled by recla[illegible] of old records. Solid shell[illegible] ords are again [illegible] chief prob[illegible] for

CLIPPING FROM N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE, NOV. 13, 1944

City May Boost Ta[illegible]

could have so little in common.

Cleavage Traced Back

C. I. O. Wa[illegible]

Within Cong[illegible] the other[illegible] In any [illegible] meas[illegible]

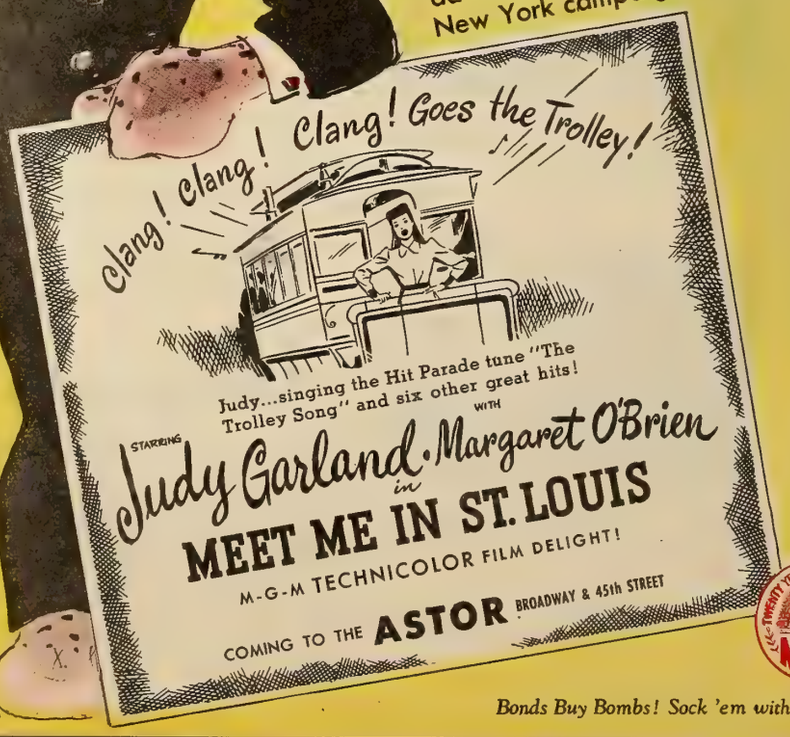
M-G-M'S TECHNICOLOR JOY "MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS" GETS NATIONWIDE FAME AS ITS HIT PARADE TUNE "THE TROLLEY SONG" HITS THE HEADLINES! IT'S ALREADY No. 1 ON THE HIT PARADE, AND NO WONDER THEY PICKED IT FOR THE FIRST RECORDING! WHAT A BUILD-UP FOR M-G-M'S GREAT SHOW!

No. 1 ON THE HIT PARADE!

"The Trolley Song" blazes a box-office trail for "MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"!

WORLD PREMIERE
ST. LOUIS—NOV. 22nd
BROADWAY PRESENTATION
ASTOR THEATRE—NOV. 28th

Below: Leo is holding a teaser ad from the New York campaign.



MGM

Bonds Buy Bombs! Sock 'em with the 6th

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 101 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1944 | TEN CENTS

FILE DO NOT

Roosevelt in Tribute to Film Industry

Variety Banquet Held; War Effort Citation

By SHERWIN KANE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—President Franklin D. Roosevelt paid tribute to the industry and to the Variety Clubs of America Friday night in a communication read to more than 500 guests assembled at the Mayflower Hotel to honor Secretary of State Cordell Hull, given the annual Humanitarian Award by Variety Clubs. The communication was read by James F. Byrnes, former Supreme Court Justice and aid to President Roosevelt, as part of the ceremonies of the evening. It was addressed to Carter Barron, general

(*Continued on page 6*)

Report Progress on New Building Code

"Satisfactory progress" is being made on a revised building code for theatres and places of public assembly in all parts of New York State except New York City, according to a representative of the New York State Labor Department's advisory committee which has been holding meetings. The next meeting will be held Friday, Dec. 1.

Representatives of the industry on the committee include Henry Anderson, Paramount; Martin J. Tracey, Century Circuit; Theodore Junge, alternate for Harry Moskowitz, Loew's and Glen H. Humphrey of projectionist's Local 337.

Ramish, Founder of FWC, Dies at 82

LOS. ANGELES, Nov. 26.—Adolph Ramish, 82, has passed away at his home here. He was born in Grass Valley, Cal., Aug. 19, 1862. He pioneered in exhibition, financing production companies also.

With the Gore Brothers and Sol Lesser, Ramish founded West Coast Theatres, now Fox West Coast. He became a First National franchise holder; also once backed Charles R. Rogers.

Variety Club Stills Executive Activity

Home office executive functioning was practically at a standstill here starting last Wednesday. The Thanksgiving holiday shuttered all offices on Thursday, and the next day witnessed one of the greatest mass migrations of industry executive manpower, to Washington, for the annual Variety Clubs' 'Humanitarian Award' dinner. Nearly every top executive made the trip, with scores of lesser lights accompanying them.

Films Worth 2 Billions

Average weekly attendance at film theatres in the U. S. is approximately 95,000,000, and there are about 16,793 theatres in the country, with about 2,000 closed, according to the *International Motion Picture Almanac*, just out, published by Quigley Publishing Co. The volume discloses that 193,222 are employed in exhibition, distribution and production, earning $343,033,763 per year. Capital investment of theatres, studios and distribution facilities amounts to $2,050,000,000.

The *Almanac* has some 12,000 biographies in its 'Who's Who' section, and more than 1,000 pages of facts and figures on industry personnel, structure and activity. A main division of the volume, arranged in 15 sections, is devoted to the far-flung, diversified contributions of the film business to America-at-War.

$31,097,641 Tax in Month

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—Admission tax collections by the Treasury Department resumed their upward trend in October, on September ticket sales, after having declined seasonally the preceding month, jumping from $29,042,668 to $31,097,641, it was announced here Saturday by the Internal Revenue Bureau. Collections in October last year were $16,499,395.

Collections in the third New York (Broadway) district, which dived from $5,000,000 in August to $1,463,000 in September, recovered heavily last month, totaling $4,873,946. October, 1943, collections were $2,043,582.

Collections for the first ten months of 1944 were $239,149,479, compared with $136,293,040 for the corresponding period in 1943.

Rank Opens Odeon To All British

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Nov. 26.—J. Arthur Rank, announcing formally here at the weekend his "association" with Odeon Theatres of Canada, emphasized that the circuit would be used as an outlet not only for his own films but for all British product, "with quality and suitability the only tests."

The British Board of Trade, Rank said, had asked him to do everything in his power to obtain Canadian distribution, and it is understood that the BOT had a hand in the wording of the weekend statement, which charac-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Manpower Is Midwest's No. 1 Postwar Need

Exhibitors in Good Shape on Equipment

By SAM HONIGBERG

CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—Assuming that theatre equipment becomes available within the next several months, demands for it among exhibitors in this territory will not be as heavy as had been anticipated.

On the other hand, as soon as the acute manpower situation eases, exhibitors in this area will swamp with offers all competent ushers, doormen, cashiers, assistant managers and managers they can reach.

Generally, the current equipment picture in the 300-odd theatres is quite bright. Freon is in demand, some replacements parts for sound systems and projectors are needed, but so far no theatre has had to close for lack of suitable operating equipment.

I. Brotman, independent exhibitor

(*Continued on page 7*)

Johnston Arranges For New Financing

Monogram has completed plans for the underwriting of 100,000 shares of preferred stock, at $10 a share, to net the company approximately $860,000, which will be added to working capital and also used for the reduction of present accounts payable and for production. Emanuel and Company, New York, will underwrite. It will be that company's first motion picture

(*Continued on page 6*)

"Henry the Fifth"

[*Two Cities*]

London, Nov. 26

PREVIEWED by the press prior to its gala premiere at the Carlton Theatre tomorrow night for the benefit of the Commandos Benevolent Fund, this anxiously awaited $2,000,000 color production, shown at a time when J. Arthur Rank is challenging the world as a producer, demonstrates that Great Britain, despite outworn studio equipment, the manpower shortage and the perils of bombing, is able to turn out a film not only magnificent in all technical points but also showing a revolution in production technique as startling as Walt Disney's best.

Disregarding the belief, based on past Hollywood efforts, that Shakespeare is box-office 'poison,' Laurence Olivier, the producer, director and star of "Henry the Fifth," has disdained the ancient theatrical fetish of the sacredness of the Shakespearean convention and, regarding the bard only as an unexcelled fashioner of a magic ring of words, has compounded that same magic in a superb synthesis of color, sound and movement. It is infinitely finer than anything previously made in En-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Exhibitors Selling Bonds in 30 Plants

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 26.—Scope of the *Los Angeles Examiner's* Sixth War Loan alliance with 650 Southern California theatres broadens here with the announcement by Earl Rice, chairman of the joint effort's 'War Industry Plants Bond Premiere Committee,' working under the supervision of exhibitor state chairman Gus Metzger, that bond-sales groups composed of theatre personnel are now on duty at industrial plants selling war bonds to

(*Continued on page 3*)

Personal Mention

KARL HOBLITZELLE, president of Interstate Circuit, Texas, is in New York for a week's conference at Paramount.

•

MRS. MORRIS ALIN, wife of the editor of Universal's house organ, "Progress," gave birth to a girl, Thanksgiving day, in Woman's Hospital, New York.

•

LT. JULIUS GORDON, USN, president of Jefferson Amusement Co., of Texas, associated with Paramount, and now on active duty, is a New York visitor.

•

LEO J. MC CARTHY, general sales manager of PRC, will leave today for a three week tour of exchanges. He will return to New York Dec. 18.

•

EDDIE BRACKEN, actor, and his wife, CONNIE NICKERSON, former actress, are the parents of a girl, born in Santa Monica, Cal.

•

WILLIAM Z. PORTER, Western traveling auditor for Monogram, has returned to Hollywood from Chicago and Indianapolis.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice president of Trans-Lux Theatres Corp., will leave New York today for Toronto, to be gone a week.

•

NELSON ROCKERFELLER, Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs, left Caracas, Venezuela, at the weekend for New York.

•

HARRY MAIZLISH, general manager of KFWB, Warner radio station in Los Angeles, is in New York for a week.

•

BEN KALMENSON, general sales manager for Warner Bros., has returned to New York from the South.

•

LARRY GOLOB, Warner Eastern publicity head and DELMER DAVES, director, spent the weekend in Philadelphia.

•

JOSEPH PASTERNAK, M-G-M producer, arrived in New York from the Coast at the weekend.

•

HAROLD ZELTNER of M-G-M's sales force in Buffalo, returned there from New York yesterday.

•

MOE HOROWITZ, Cleveland independant circuit operator, arrived in New York at the weekend.

•

RALPH H. CLARK Canadian manager of Warners, has left for Winnipeg, Vancouver and Victoria.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division manager for Warners, will leave today for Washington.

•

OLIVER H. P. GARRETT, has left here for Hollywood.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THIS department is inclined to share with Ed Kuykendall the doubt expressed in his recent MPTOA bulletin that "maybe" the effort to attain unity within this industry "is unrealistic and too much to hope for." We cannot, however, agree with his reasons.

"Unity with the producers and distributors," Kuykendall wrote, "doesn't seem to work out very well. Maybe it isn't in the cards. Too much conflict of interests, too much self-interest in Hollywood and New York, too much wrangling and fighting over film prices."

Well, maybe. But it seems to this corner that so long as exhibitors themselves cannot get together to face and endeavor to solve their mutual problems no one need look much farther than that for reasons why industry unity, at least between exhibition and distribution, never has been attained.

•

The record of attempts to establish a code of industrial conduct for exhibition and distribution from the days of the 5-5-5 Conference up to (but not including) the last attempt by the so-called United Motion Picture Industry, is a record of failure, the roots of which, if not the seed itself, derived from exhibitor disunity. This is not to say there were not other factors which contributed to the failure of unity efforts, but no other single factor involved would have prevailed had there been exhibitor unity to begin with.

The UMPI plan, of course, was nipped, while in full flower, by the Department of Justice, and it is just as well to point out at this juncture that had there been exhibitor unity ahead of UMPI it is quite unlikely that the Department would have been hanging around the industry at the time to turn thumbs down on the organization's completed trade practice program. It was exhibitor disunity which whistled up the cop after exhibitor disunity had played the leading part, time and again, in frustrating the application of cooperative codes.

For that reason it is difficult to share another hope voiced by Kuykendall in his bulletin of Nov. 21st, to wit: "Unity among exhibitors may be quite possible to achieve . . ."

The bulletin does not explain why. Doubtless, many who read it will wonder whether Kuykendall enjoys possession of some secret information pointing to an impending revolution of exhibitor thinking and action. This hardly seems likely, however, for, two paragraphs following the statement quoted above, and under the heading: "Organized Disunity Among Exhibitors," his bulletin points out a quite a number of the more common manifestations of division within exhibitor ranks and nowhere suggests that they are on the wane or are likely to be within the predictable future. His only prescription is MPTOA's all-inclusive, representative organizational form as a rallying point for regional exhibitor organizations which now or in the future may see fit to place exhibitor unity foremost.

This department cannot escape the impression that if this is the sole basis on which hope for exhibitor unity must rest at this time, that unity is as far away now as ever it was and will be no swifter in its approach. No disparagement of MPTOA or its organizational form, which has several obvious and undeniable advantages, is intended. In fact, it is quite apparent that if ever exhibitor unity is to be attained, it will have to be through some such organizational pattern as that provided by MPTOA, which invites the independent and the affiliated to foregather together, each with an equal voice in the family council, and not through any organization which perpetuates exhibitor disunity by arbitrarily proclaiming that the interests of independent and affiliated are unassimilable and irreconcilable, thereby automatically disqualifying one or the other of the important segments of exhibition.

•

It is merely to proclaim the obvious to say that no *new* hope of exhibitor unity is offered at this time by MPTOA, for its organizational form has been in existence these many years, inviting an unheeding exhibitor body to enter and be saved. The fact that over the years exhibition has not sought its salvation through MPTOA or any other similar organization that offered sanctuary to the champions of union, is testimony that organizational form alone is not enough for the attainment of unity. There is where the problem must be met if ever it is to be solved.

Coming Events

To Dec. 1—American Federation of Labor conference, New Orleans.

To Dec.16—Sixth War Loan Campaign.

Nov. 27-28—Allied of Texas 25th annual meeting, White-Plaza Hotel, Dallas.

Nov. 29—Canadian Picture Pioneers' annual meeting, King Edward Hotel, Toronto.

Dec. 4-6—20th Century-Fox Mid season sales meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

Dec. 6—Monogram stockholders' meeting, Hollywood.

Dec. 11-12—Television Broadcasters Association meeting, Hotel Commodore, New York.

Dec. 12—Launching of Liberty Ship, M. E. Comerford, Brunswick, Ga.

Dec. 13—Picture Pioneers' annual dinner, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

Dec. 14-Dec. 20—Theatres drive for National War Fund.

Jan. 2-6—Annual meeting of M-G-M field auditors, Hotel Astor, New York.

Jan. 21-22—Theatre Owners Association of North and South Carolina membership meeting, Charlotte.

25th Texas Allied Convention Today

DALLAS, Nov. 26.—Twenty-fifth annual meeting of Allied of Texas will be held at the White-Plaza Hotel here today and tomorrow, with Col. H. A. Cole, president, presiding. Over 150 independent theatre owners are expected to attend the two afternoon sessions, the first of which will be devoted to problems of today and the second to future problems, with discussions scheduled to be held in both sessions on labor, material shortages, post-war competition and construction.

Meeting will close with a dinner at the Variety Club, and also on the second day, discussions of the consent decree and election of new officers will be held. Officers, in addition to Cole, are: Rubin Frels, H. S. Leon and Martha McSpadden vice-presidents and A. W. Lilly, secretary-treasurer.

Rowley Heads R & R Theatres in Texas

DALLAS, Nov. 26.—Ed H. Rowley is the new president of Robb and Rowley United Theatres, Inc. succeeding his longtime associate, the late Harold B. Robb, who died here on Oct. 30. J. Y. Robb, Big Spring, Tex., brother of the former president, has been named to the board of directors at a stockholders meeting and at a director's meeting which followed, C. V. Jones, general manager and secretary, was elected as a vice-president, with J. Y. Robb and Lou Anger of Los Angeles reelected vice-president. Frank M. Dowd was reelected treasurer.

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First Pledges for March of Dimes

The Cumberland Amusement Co., operating the Park and Dixie, McKinnville, Tenn., are the first theatres to send in their "March of Dimes" pledges for the 1945 drive, Jan. 25-31, Nicholas M. Schenck, chairman of the drive reported here at the weekend. The two houses, seating 1,200, collected $502 in 1944.

Royal Heads NBC Television Unit

Plans are being formulated by National Broadcasting to expand the network's television activities it is disclosed with the designation of John F. Royal as vice-president in charge of a newly established department of television. Royal previously has been vice-president in charge of international operations and will now devote himself exclusively to television, at the request of Frank E. Mullen, vice-president and general manager.

William F. Brooks, director of news and special events will supervise international relations and foreign personnel as a result of the Royal shift. Also, under the new order, Ray Kelly, manager of television program facilities; John T. Williams, business manager of the television department and production directors Edward Sobol, Paul Alley, Ernest S. Colling and their staffs will report to Royal.

A series of sponsored television programs will be inaugurated tonight over WNBT, NBC's New York television station, by Aetna Life.

Sgt. Balaban Pleads For War Fund Aid

Sgt. Burt B. Balaban, USMC, 22-year-old son of Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, was the principal speaker at a rally for Paramount employees in the New York area on Friday, on behalf of the New York War Fund Campaign. Balaban, returned from 15 months in the South Pacific, told of the need for USO Camp Shows and other War Fund agencies in the fighting zones, and pleaded for funds. Presiding at the meeting was C. J. Scollard, chairman of Paramount's New York War Fund Drive.

Virgil Martin, associate director of the Fund, described the work of the Fund's 31 agencies and said that since Oct. 1 USO touring units had been increased from 87 to 137. New York's quota in the drive is $17,250,000, Martin told the gathering. Other speakers included: Felix Knight, tenor, who spent nine months in the South Pacific as an entertainer, and Radioman 2-c Harold Amateis, wounded veteran, who related the need of entertainment for fighting men. Meeting was held in the home office.

Schindler, 81, Dies

CHICAGO, Nov. 26.—Funeral services were held here Friday for Ludwig Schindler, 81, veteran exhibitor. He had operated the Schindler Theatre, one of the first film theatres in this city, selling it only recently when he retired. His widow, Johanna, survives.

Exhibitors Selling Sixth War Bonds in 30 Plants

(*Continued from page* 1)

thousands of employees above and beyond their savings plan accrual.

Upwards of 30 such plants, including California Shipbuilding, Consolidated Steel, Consolidated-Vultee Aircraft, Lockhead, Douglas, North American Aviation, Northrop, Todd Shipyards, Western Pipe, Goodrich Rubber, and others, are participating, with labor unions cooperating to influence memberships to make extra purchases.

Industrial employees buying bonds from the Rice theatre groups will receive free tickets to war bond premieres in theatres in the factory areas, for major studio feature previews from leading Hollywood film makers will be the piece de resistance of the War Plant shows.

The war industry plants are being contacted by 'Taps for the Japs' mobile units, sponsored by the theatres, and staffed by volunteer workers of the Citizens War Service Corps, Citizens Defense Corps and theatre personnel.

Metzger has several events lined up, including the bond premieres, network radio broadcasts, personal appearances of stars, stage shows, orchestral units, rallies, auctions, 'G.I.' shows, Free Movie Day, house-to-house solicitations, junior matinees and church and school events all tied into the efforts.

Brandt Gives WAC Members War Bonds

Harry Brandt, national chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan, presented at the weekend $25 bonds to all members of the War Activities Committee's local staff "in appreciation for their service and cooperation."

The presentation was made before members of the national 6th bond committee. Francis Harmon spoke in behalf of the WAC members.

Lloyd in Hollywood For 6th Radio Show

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Ted Lloyd, in charge of radio at 20th Century-Fox in New York and chairman of the radio division for the Sixth War Loan, has arrived here from New York to arrange a special radio show to be broadcast from this city on Dec. 6 in connection with the industry's bond drive.

Cleveland Variety to Repeat Bond Auction

CLEVELAND, Nov. 26.—Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager here, has been appointed chairman of the Variety Club bond auction to be held Dec. 16.

Oscar Bloom, Columbia salesman, will handle the assembling of merchandise for the sale, assisted by Edwin R. Bergman of 20th Century-Fox. Local Variety staged a similar auction which netted $100,000 in bonds, on the last day of the Fifth War Loan drive.

Invasion Film Feature Of Sixth War Loan

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—The Treasury Department will distribute 400 prints of the U. S. Coast Guard film, "Normandy Invasion," during the Sixth War Loan drive.

The film, made by Coast Guard combat photographers during the D-Day assault on Europe, opens with training scenes in the States, then moves to the British Isles to show final practice landings and finally depicts the landings in Normandy. Prints are being placed with 16 mm. film libraries throughout the country and will be available for showing in every state.

Kingsberg Reports 6th 39,926 'E' Bond Sales

Between Nov. 1-19, $2,893,000 of Sixth War Loan Bonds were sold in film theatres of Greater New York and Westchester, according to Malcolm Kingsberg of RKO, local industry drive chairman. Some 39,926 'E' bonds were sold with a maturity value of $2,566,675.00, while 'F' and 'G' bonds totaled $326,425.

MPTO Plans Bond Awards to Mgrs.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—The MPTO of the District of Columbia will give $750 in bonds to theatre managers showing the best percentage of bond sales in the Sixth War Loan in Washington.

Gerald Kent, Actor, Dies in Germany

Gerald MacIntosh Johnston, former stage and film actor, known professionally as Gerald Kent, died Nov. 5 in a prison camp in Germany, it was reported here at the weekend by his mother, Mrs. Clare M. Johnston.

Johnston, who had served with the Canadian Black Watch Regiment and with the Commandos overseas, was captured in the Dieppe raid. As Gerald Kent he appeared in "Four Corners," English film which starred the late Leslie Howard. He also played in several Broadway stage productions.

Kohlmar Rites Held

Funeral services for Mrs. Mina Kohlmar, 73, mother of Fred Kohlmar, Paramount producer, and wife of Lee Kohlmar, veteran actor, were held yesterday at Riveside Funeral Chapel, here, Fred Kohlmar arrived in New York at the weekend to attend the services.

Beattie of Paramount Heads MP Associates

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 26.—George Beattie, Paramount sales manager here, has been elected president of the Motion Picture Associates. Other officers elected were: William Humphries, vice-president; William Doyle, treasurer; Lester Wurtele, secretary. Alfred J. Davis, Saul Krugman, Charles Beilan, Ely Epstein, William Mansell and Jack McFadden were elected to the board of directors.

Newly admitted members are Edward L. Fineblatt, PRC; Nell Koff, United Artists; Walter Donahue, Columbia; Moe Verbin, *The Record*, and Jack Jaslow.

'St. Louis' Premiere

Arthur Freed, producer, Vincente Minnelli, director and Judy Garland, star of "Meet Me in St. Louis," will arrive in New York today for the premiere tomorrow of the picture at the Astor.

Dietz Calls 34 MGM Exploiteers to N.Y.

M-G-M will call in its 34 field exploitation field men starting on Jan. 1, at the rate of two per week, to New York, to show them operations at the home office. Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of exploitation-advertising-publicity, in making the announcement at the weekend, pointed out that this is the first time that all field exploitation men are being called to New York. They will follow the visits of M-G-Ms district and branch managers.

Three M-G-M office managers, A. J. Mayer of Pittsburgh; Don S. Mac Leon, Indianapolis; and Edward Susse, Albany, will arrive today for home office visits. The last of the branch managers to visit New York will be William B. Zoellner, Atlanta and Louis C. Ingram, Memphis, who are scheduled to arrive Dec. 4. Three district managers will arrive later in that week, Charles E. Kessnich, South-manager, from Atlanta; Rudolph Berger, Washington, and Maurice N. Wolff, New England district manager with headquarters in Boston.

Monogram to Sell Dubbed Films in U.S.

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Monogram will conduct a drive to sell its five films recently dubbed in Spanish to the 400 U. S. theatres which feature Spanish-language films, it was disclosed here yesterday by Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager. While the dubbed productions are primarily intended for Latin America, the company believes that there is potential additional revenue in the U. S.

Films include: "Lady, Let's Dance," "The Unknown Guest," "The Ape Man," "Detective Kitty O'Day" and "G.I. Honeymoon."

20th Sends 5,000 Gifts To Its Servicemen

Twentieth Century-Fox has sent 5,000 Christmas parcels to its employees and those of National Theatres, now in the Armed Forces, Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales announced at the weekend. Connors had Jack Sichelman, his assistant, handle details.

Money orders of $10 each will accompany the parcels to each employee.

'U's' "Bowery" Party

A "Bowery Alumni" party will be held in the lobby of the Criterion Theatre, Nov. 29, at the premiere here of Universal's "Bowery To Broadway." Among those scheduled to be present are Joe Howard, Harry Hirschfield, Billy Gould, Fritzi Scheff, Jim Barton and his father John Barton, Dooley and Sales, Smith and Dale, Dunninger and others. The event will be broadcast over WHN.

Donovan Major General

MOTION PICTURE DAILY inadvertently reported on Friday that William J. Donovan, head of the Office of Strategic Services, had been nominated by President Roosevelt for promotion to "brigadier general." The nomination called for Brig. Gen. Donovan's advancement to Major General.

BOB ('PIR
CAPTURES T

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents

BOB HOPE in TH

VIRGINIA MAYO

Directed by DAVID BUTLER • Associate Producer DON HARTM

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

ATE') HOPE
HE COUNTRY!

.... The Big Box-Office Buccaneer scuttles top figures in first openings—Rochester, Syracuse, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton, Atlanta, New Orleans, Kansas City, Des Moines, Omaha, Salt Lake City, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Buffalo, Reading, Harrisburg, Chicago and a dozen other spots! . . Brings home to happy showmen a fabulous prize attraction laden with solid gold!

PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE

ALTER SLEZAK • WALTER BRENNAN • VICTOR McLAGLEN

en Play by Don Hartman, Melville Shavelson and Everett Freeman • RELEASED THROUGH RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

Roosevelt in Tribute to Film Industry

(Continued from page 1)

chairman of the affair, and it read:

"I appreciate your kind invitation to be present when the Variety Clubs of America present the silver scroll to Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

"I know of no one more richly deserving of this signal honor. I should enjoy very much being present on this occasion and am sorry that it is impossible for me to be with you tonight.

"But I hope I may take this occasion through your organization to thank the members of the amusement industry who have done so much for the good of the community in our national life. I am thinking of such things as war bond drives, Red Cross activities, participation in USO activities, the March of Dimes for the benefit of crippled children, the maintenance of children's camps all over the country and in many kindred fields. The members of the industry —management, actors, and actresses, alike—seem to have unlimited capacity and energy in giving their time and effort to good causes."

Byrnes Tribute

Byrnes, director of war mobilization and reconversion, added his commendation to the industry and its men and women in addressing the Friday night gathering. He also paid tribute to Secretary Hull for his outstanding contribution to the world peace movement and added that the Secretary did honor to Variety in accepting the award as well as being honored by it.

Tribute to Secretary Hull was also paid by Senator Tom Connally, who said that the entire civilized world eventually will accord the Secretary the same recognition. Connally said the motion picture is one of the world's most important common denominators and is an ambassador of this country. Its responsibilities will increase through the years, he added. Senator Connally also commended the motion picture "Wilson". Will H. Hays, MPPDA president, also addressed the gathering.

Harris Presentation

Presentation of Variety's Humanitarian Award was made to assistant Secretary of State E. R. Stettinius by John Harris for the chief barker of Variety. Secretary Stettinius enumerated Secretary Hull's contributions to current world peace efforts in accepting the award.

Albert Rowswell, chairman of the Humanitarian Award committee, introduced Stettinius and recounted the history of the Variety Clubs. Since their founding in Pittsburgh in 1927, more than a million dollars has been paid out to beneficial causes, not counting administration costs, he said. Rowswell also introduced Sister Elizabeth Kenny, who received Variety's Humanitarian Award last year.

Bob Hope, Vera Vague and Jerry Colonna gave an off-the-record entertainment, but James Byrnes, sometimes known as the 'assistant president,' was observed taking notes on Hope's remarks. Hope previously had asked Will H. Hays if he would clear the remarks. The answer was, "No." Franchot Tone also spoke.

Robert J. O'Donnell, chief barker, presided. The invocation was by Rabbi Norman Gerstenfeld.

Others Present

Among those present were: Senators Walter F. George, Carl Hatch, Warren Austin, Arthur Walsh, Theodore Green and Kenneth McKellar; Representative Wright Patman, Postmaster General Frank Walker, Rear Admiral L. H. Thebaud, Colonel Halsey, John Russell Young, Col. C. W. Kutz, Vice Admiral R. R. Waesche, General A. A. Vandergift, Brig. Gen. R. L. Denig, Capt. Ellis Reed-Hill, Governor Herbert O'Conor of Maryland, J. A. Krug, C. W. Gray, M. J. McDermott, Hathaway Watson, A. C. Gates, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Air Arm; R. W. Coyne, Treasury Department; Walter Brown, State Department; Rear Admiral W. B. Young; Rear Admiral Ben Morrell, 'father of the Seabees'; Col. Curtis Mitchel, Army Pictorial Services; Col. Frank McCarthy, Army Special Services; Major Alfred Bendell and Tom Baily, Treasury liaison.

Industry Representatives

Among industry representatives were: Barney Balaban, Carter Barron, Jack Cohn, Tom Connors, George Dembow, Ned E. Depinet, J. J. Fitzgibbons, Leonard Goldenson, James R. Grainger, W. Ray Johnston, Austin Keough, Charles E. Lewis, John Maloney, Charles Reagan, Gordon Youngman, Robert Mochrie, Herman Robbins, J. Robert Rubin, George Schaefer, Sypros Skouras, William Cronin, Ray Beall, John Flinn, Jack Levin, Malcolm Kingsberg, Irving Mack, Hal Horne, Russell Holman, Ted Gamble, David Palfreyman, Glendon Allvine, Earl Allvine, Nathan Golden, Sidney Lust and Sam Galanty.

"Henry the Fifth"

(Continued from page 1)

gland and has not been surpassed elsewhere as an example of cinematic art and the unlimited potentialities of the screen.

Olivier recruited his collaborators from Britain's best, notably William Walton, composer of the score, and Paul Sheriff, art director. The cunning intermingling of their creations with the director's suberb skill has resulted in a picture of which the background is indeed Disneyesque—but Disney immensely elevated, as if working lovingly on some medieval missal.

This magic is matched by the accomplishment of the acting. Olivier's performance as England's mettlesome king is a tour de force; he maintains the high heroic note through all the color flourishes of the pageantry. There is an unmatched fiery ardor in his invocation to valor beginning, "And, gentlemen of England, now abed," but far deeper than the declamation is the brooding mood of loneliness he reveals. Olivier's, however, is no lonely pinnical of accomplishment in the cast, all of whom are superbly good. Special mention must be made of Renee Asherton, the Katherine of France, and Robert Newton, whose swaggering Pistol overwhelms the screen whenever he is around.

Rank, through Two Cities' planning and Olivier's execution, has dispelled the Shakespearean 'hoodoo' and wrought a revolution in picture-making. Connoisseurs will laud the picture and go back to it time after time. It was made despite the timid prophesies of the fate awaiting "Henry" in rural areas. It is a motion picture in a million and one which will indeed attract millions. "G"*.

*"G" denotes general classification.

PETER BURNUP

Bolstad Tops Toronto BOT Film Branch

TORONTO, Nov. 26.—R. W. Bolstad, Famous-Players Canadian vice-president, has been reelected chairman of the motion picture branch of the Toronto Board of Trade. Sydney Samson of 20th Century-Fox was renamed vice-chairman. Eelected to the executive committee were: J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players; H. Freedman, Toronto exhibitor, and Leo Devaney of RKO.

Johnston Arranges For New Financing

(Continued from page 1)

underwriting. The proposed financing will be submitted to stockholders at their annual meeting Dec. 6 in Los Angeles for approval. At the same time it is expected that the present board of directors will be reelected.

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, now in New York to arrange for the refinancing, with George Burrows, announced at the weekend that the company's expansion in the past year has been the most rapid in the company's history, and that gross collections for the year ended June, 1944, had exceeded those for the year ended June, 1943, by $1,700,025. Johnston and Burrows, Monogram vice-president and treasurer, will return to Hollywood on Wednesday, arriving there Dec. 2. Twenty of the 45 features announced for the 1944-45 season have been completed, Johnston said.

MGM ChangesScreenings

M-G-M has changed screening dates on five of its pictures scheduled for trade showings at the New York exchange. Instead of "Main Street After Dark" and "Nothing But Trouble" being shown today, they will be screened tomorrow. "National Velvet," scheduled for Dec. 27, will be shown Dec. 26 and "Music for Millions" and "This Man's Navy," will be screened Jan. 2 instead of Jan. 3.

'Canteen' Premiere Dec.15

World premiere of Warners' "Hollywood Canteen" has been set for Dec. 15 at the New York Strand, with more than 200 additional openings scheduled for the Christmas-New Year holiday week. A radio campaign, built around the production's musical numbers, has been under way for several weeks.

Harris Joins Reade

Jack Harris, for the past eight years with Skouras Theatres, here, will join the Walter Reade circuit today as chief film buyer and executive assistant.

No New Theatres in England for Years

Predictions that no new theatres will be built in England for five years after the war are made by John Davis, managing director of Odeon Theatres, London, who has been visiting Toronto and New York in behalf of J. Arthur Rank.

Davis pointed out that the British Government will not release labor and materials needed to rebuild millions of homes destroyed by bombings. These come first, it was said.

Rank Opens Odeon To All British

(Continued from page 1)

terized the Odeon transaction as "a further step in Rank's plans to form a world-wide association, ensuring a market for British-produced films, thus making film export a real national asset."

Details of the deal are not yet available here inasmuch as John Davis, who carried on the negotiations with Thomas J. Bragg of General Theatre Corp. in Toronto, has not yet returned from Canada, but it has been announced that Paul N. Nathanson, Canadian Odeon president, will continue to control the circuit—jointly with Odeon Theatres, Ltd., British company of which Davis is managing director.

As reported Wednesday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Rank has obtained a half interest in Odeon of Canada for a reported $5,000,000.

Davis on Nathanson's Board of Directors

TORONTO, Nov. 26.—John Davis, managing director of Odeon Theatres, Ltd., will be added to the board of directors of General Theatres Corp., operating Odeon of Canada, Paul L. Nathanson, head of the Dominion circuit of approximately 100 houses, said here at the weekend following release of a joint statement with J. Arthur Rank on the latter's acquisition of a partnership in the Canadian company.

Nathanson, declining to state how much cash was involved in the deal, said he was carrying out the ideal of his father, the late N. L. Nathanson, in the creation of a British Empire chain of theatres. He intimated that a considerable building program would be undertaken after the war but hesitated on the question of installing television facilities, remarking that television is under the control of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp.

Davis said he would return to New York Tuesday and go from there to England after Christmas. He said Rank was opening publicity offices in New York and Toronto to overcome the lack of exploitation on British product.

English Readying Two

English Films, Inc., is preparing two British Gainsborough productions for release here. They are: "On Approval" and "This Happy Bondage."

Short Subject Review

"Inside China Today"

(MOT-20th-Fox)

March of Time presents, in pictures, the same Chinese scene described in the press for many months. The Chinese front remains the only war theatre in which Allied forces are continually retreating as the Japs advance. Front-line equipment is lacking due to primitive transportation. There are few guns—one to every ten men. China's barefoot warriors are forced to fight with their hands. Airfields are built only by the efforts of countless thousands of men, women and children, working with their hands and home made tools.

The narrator points to the Red Armies of the North, fighting their aggressors in their own territory, but goes on to state that mutual distrust between the Kuomintang, China's official government, and the Communist state is seriously hampering the war effort. There is much to ponder in this film though no solution to China's problem is given. In the light of the very recent so-called shakeup in China, the picture is timely, although the subject material is not new. Running time, 17 minutes.

Cleveland Off, but Not 'Conspirators'

CLEVELAND, Nov. 26.—"Conspirators," hitting a high $10,500 is the top box office attraction of a fair week in which few runs could compete with Christmas shopping, the Ohio State-Illinois football game or rainy weather.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 23:

"The Conspirators" (WB)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,500).
"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $22,100).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,650. (Average: $3,200).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268 (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Together Again" (Col.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Will Osborne's orchestra. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $25,400).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $19,000).
"American Romance" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000).

Reassure Mexicans On Cuban Release

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 26.—The National Cinematographic Industry Chamber, of which Jesus A. Grovas, producer, is president, has issued a statement to end reports from Havana of an alleged move by Cuban exhibitors, aided by Hollywood interests, to boycott Mexican films.

"Cuban contracts for Mexican pictures," said the statement, "provide for the full exhibition of them for two more years. The Cuban people have always favored Mexican pictures and we can count upon that cooperation," the statement said, in an effort to counteract concern evinced in the Mexican industry.

Manpower, No. 1 Postwar Need of Midwest Houses

(Continued from page 1)

who operates the Avaloe and Rogers theatres, typifies the average independent's position, by stating that he had surveyed his needs fully before Pearl Harbor, even to the point of buying a new sound system; he could use some freon, but that's about all.

Charles H. Ryan, assistant zone manager of Warner Theatres here, states that the circuit foresaw wartime equipment shortages and stocked up on needed materials. Before the war, most of the 16 WB houses in Chicago, three in Hammond, Ind., and 30 in Wisconsin were reseated and modernized with the latest equipment. At the same time a permanent staff of maintenance men was established to keep an eye on equipment. Dave Zook is head of that department.

This condition also holds in the Balaban and Katz circuit which has always had a maintenance organization to keep theatres in good operating order, and Arch Trebow, purchasing head, stocked up on all types of equipment in plenty of time.

A spokesman for Schoenstadt and Sons took the stand of local independent circuits by stating that major theatre equipment items are comparatively new and still in fine shape. Some replacements are needed, but the situation is not desperate, he said.

The exhibition field in this area has reached the end of the rope, however, with manpower. Circuits, with promotional systems within their ranks, are well supplied with theatre managers and supervisors, but are constantly in need of help for lower ranks which is becoming increasingly difficult to fill. The Warner Circuit, so far, has not benefited from service men's medical discharges at all. Other circuits have hired some discharged service men not previously on their payrolls, but their work, generally, is described as not satisfactory, because most of them are not yet conditioned for this type of indoor work which requires a great deal of patience. Girl ushers have not been satisfactory at all, exhibitors complain, and in many cases will be replaced as soon as possible after the war.

Allied Theatres of Illinois is now conducting a survey to determine the equipment needs of its 150 members, but so far no startling needs have been reported. Members took appropriate measures in time.

Local film exchanges will also look for competent office help after the war and will buy typewriters as soon as they become available. Jack Lorentz, Chicago district manager for 20th-Fox, sums up the exchange situation by stating that film offices today operate with minimum staffs and most work overtime to help relieve the manpower shortage. New office furniture is needed.

'Casanova Brown' Is Only Run Over Par

PITTSBURGH Nov. 26.—Pittsburgh experienced a pre-holiday slump this week. "Marriage Is a Private Affair," in the lead, brought only $17,000 to the Penn. "Casanova Brown" was the only run over par.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 20-24:

"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,500).
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $21,700).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $22,000).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,450).

MPSC Annual Meet Set

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26. — The local Motion Picture Salesman's Club will hold its annual meeting and election on Dec. 9, at the Hotel Continental here. Plans for the organization's annual welfare drive will be discussed at that time.

MPOE Gets Wage Jump

BUFFALO, Nov. 26.—Members of the Motion Picture Office Employes, Local F-9, employed by exchanges here, have received 10 per cent wage increases retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943.

$24,000 Flows Into 'Frenchman's Creek'

ST. LOUIS,. Nov. 26. — The first snow of the season failed to affect St. Louis box offices this week. "Frenchman's Creek," at the Ambassador Theatre, is headed for $24,00 and an extended engagement.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 22:

"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE — (3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,900).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
"End of the Road" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,700).
"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $15,700).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"When Strangers Marry" (Mono.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,900).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,100).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,200).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,100).

Chicago Oversubscribes

CHICAGO, Nov. 26. — The $250,000 Community and War Fund goal set by the amusement and recreation division here has gone over the top, Arthur Schoenstadt, president of the Schoenstadt Circuit and chairman of the local drive, reports. At the conclusion of the drive this week Schoenstadt will leave for Tuscon, Ariz., for the Winter.

'Laura', 'Old Lace' Lead In Lush Loop

CHICAGO, Nov. 26,—The biggest weekend since the peak Summer season, plus the Thanksgiving holiday, combined to give Loop houses profitable grosses. Leaders among the new arrivals are "Arsenic and Old Lace," which is riding high on a word-of-mouth build-up and is showing $29,000 in its second week, and "Laura," which bounced into a bright $57,000 spot at the Chicago.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 23:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (80c-$1.10) 5th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: 35c-95c scale: $11,400).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (35c-85c-95c). On stage: Jackie Miles and Revue. Gross: $57,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Dear or Alive" (PRC)
DOWNTOWN—(1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c). On stage: Tex Ritter and Revue. Gross: $16,000.
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd Loop week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,100).
"The Master Race" (RKO)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.) 6 days, 2nd Loop week
"The Cowboy and the Lady" (UA reissue)
"Barbary Coast" (UA reissue) 1 day
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,100).
"The Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c). On stage: "Overseas Caravan." Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,000).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
PALACE—(2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 5th week. Gross: $39,000. (Average: $29,000).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
UNTED ARTSTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International) 3 days, 8th week
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO) 4 days
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000).

Milwaukee's Bests Are Only Average

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 26. — Most houses here did average. "Going My Way," in its 12th week at the Strand, dropped to $3,375.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 23:

"Laura" (Fox)
"San Fernando Valley" (Rep.)
WISCONSIN — (3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Meet Miss Bobby Socks" (Col.)
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,925. (Average: $11,500).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
"Secret Command" (Col.)
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 12th week. Gross: $3,375. (Average: $4,500).
"Murder in the Red Room" (Univ.)
"Dead Men's Eyes" (Univ.)
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"Ziggy Talent" on Stage
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).

Stars at PAL Benefit

Stars of screen, radio and the stage will appear at the N. Y. Police Athletic League's annual youth benefit, scheduled for Madison Square Garden here on Dec. 12.

WE HATE TO BE A SHOW-OFF *BUT...*

PLAY TAPS FOR THE JAPS WITH 6TH WAR LOAN SHOWMANSHIP !!!

This business is founded on tricks . . . that will stop the Main Street sprinter cold in his tracks...to make him look, loiter and lay it on the line . . . We are dedicated to the idea . . . of making the passerby's most urgent need . . . a ticket off that nice big roll . . . Going into out-of-the-way areas and bringing back new patronage . . . is a cute trick . . . and we've perfected it . . . But our banner trick is in getting people to take their place in line . . . in exactly the same place . . . as many times as you want them . . . We can't establish bridge-heads or beach-heads . . . as the boys do overseas . . . but we do establish *buyer*-heads . . . within hearing distance of . . . "How many, Please?"

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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Set March 12 For Trial of Griffith Case

Judge Vaught to Speed 5-Year-Old Action

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 27.—Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught today ordered the five-year-old Griffith Amusement anti-trust suit tentatively set for trial March 12, 1945, and also instructed Government attorneys to answer more fully defense interrogatories filed last December.

After an all-day wrangle in his chambers, Vaught told the opposing parties that every effort should be made to speed final settlement. The case was filed in 1939 and now involves only four defendant companies as compared to 19 when originally brought.

Attorneys for the four Griffith circuits won their point upon stating that the Government's trial brief failed to cover points of information sought in the interrogatory. Leading spokesman for Griffith was Henry Griffing of Oklahoma City. Holmes Wright, assigned by the Department of Justice to the case, contended that any information beyond that in the trial brief would provide the defend-

(Continued on page 6)

National Legion Pledge on Dec. 10

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—The annual renewal of the National Legion of Decency pledge will take place in Roman Catholic churches throughout the United States on Sunday, Dec 10, it was disclosed following a meeting of the Bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures held here. Monsignor John J. McClafferty of New York executive secretary of the National Legion, told the Bishops' meeting that the Legion had reviewed a total of

(Continued on page 3)

Para. Officials at Blank Dedication

DES. MOINES, Nov. 27.—Among speakers here for the dedication service on Dec. 3, of the $300,000 Raymond Blank Memorial Hospital for Children will be Dr. Morris L. Fishbein, editor of the *Journal of the American Medical Association.* Also expected are the following Paramount executives and theatre partners: Barney Balaban, president of Para-

(Continued on page 6)

Divorcement Seen As Advantage for Distribution: Agnew

A Government victory on affiliated theatre divorcement would result in an "open market" of benefit to everyone who has a picture to sell, in the opinion of Neil F. Agnew, vice-president and general sales manager of David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films.

Conceding that theatre divorcement will not solve all trade problems, Agnew contended in an interview here that it "would open up certain bottlenecks" which now confront the independent producer. Prior to joining Vanguard, Agnew was for years vice-president of Paramount in charge of distribution. Vanguard's distribution is through United Artists.

"For the independent producer, who

(Continued on page 6)

Independents Aided By Decree: Hazen

The method of selling films singly, after completion and after screening, instituted under the consent decree by the five consenting distributors, is a boon to independent production, in the opinion of Joseph Hazen, president of Hal Wallis Productions, and who previously was liaison between the distributors and the Department of Justice on consent decree matters.

"Previous charges of the Government that the consenting companies

(Continued on page 6)

March Production Seen for Wm. Fox

The office of William Fox disclosed here yesterday that the former head of Fox Film Corp., who has been in virtual retirement, will leave New York for Hollywood today to make "final arrangements" preparatory to returning to production in March or April.

O'Donnell Reelected By National Variety

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—R. J. O'Donnell of Dallas, was unanimously re-elected national chief barker of Variety Clubs of America, at the final business session of the annual meeting in the Hotel Statler. The reelection was expected.

R. J. O'Donnell

Unanimously elected to office with O'Donnell, were: Carter Barron, Washington, first assistant national chief barker; Earle Sweigert, Philadelphia, second assistant; Marc Wolf, Indianapolis, dough guy; William K. Jenkins, Atlanta, property

(Continued on page 3)

WAC to Hear Elmer Davis, Mills, Other U.S. Chiefs

Elmer Davis, director of the Office of War Information, will be among a number of U. S. officials who will address the third annual meeting of the industry's War Activities Committee at the Hotel Warwick here on Thursday. Other speakers scheduled for the session, to be devoted to volunteer war-aid plans for 1945, include: Taylor Mills, head of the OWI motion picture bureau; Basil O'Connor and Stewart Brown, chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of the American Red Cross; Maj. Gen. A. D. Surles, director of the Army's bureau of public relations; Ted R. Gamble, national director of the U. S. Treasury's War Finance Division; Capt. Eugene Markey, director of the Navy's bureau of motion

(Continued on page 3)

Schenck Names 1st 'Dimes' Chairmen

First acceptances of appointments as state chairmen in the 1945 March of Dimes, received by chairman Nicholas M. Schenck yesterday, indicate that the majority who served in 1944 will again serve on the Jan. 25-31 drive.

First to respond were: Harold J. Fitzgerald, Wisc.; Roy Rowe, N. C.; Harry L. Nace, Ariz.; William C. Sears, Minn.; Warren Irvin, S. C.; Max M. Yellen, Western N. Y.; Rodney Toups, La.

Return French Distribution To Companies

OWI Also Presents an Accounting of Funds

Arrangements have finally been completed in conferences between representatives of U. S. companies in Paris and Robert Riskin, chief of the Office of War Information overseas motion picture bureau, whereby the U. S. companies, as of yesterday, resumed distribution of Hollywood entertainment films in France, Louis Lober, assistant chief of the OWI bureau, disclosed here yesterday.

This transfer of film distribution from the Psychological Warfare Division includes the 40 Hollywood films sub-titled in French and Italian, and those additional films which were dubbed. Riskin cabled Loder yesterday from Paris disclosing the resumption of company distribution.

Lober also announced that arrange-

(Continued on page 6)

New Conciliation Plan from FP-C

TORONTO, Nov. 27.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. has submitted a minority report to the industry's conference committee on conciliation proposals, recommending an alternate plan for a suggested Ontario Regional Conciliation Board and objecting to a national basis or organization as impractical, although support-

(Continued on page 6)

Publisher Macy in State Dept. Post

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—Col. J. Noel Macy, formerly chief of the news division of the Army Bureau of Public Relations, has been appointed assistant chief in charge of media of the Inter-Nation Information Division of the State Department.

Macy is president of the Westchest-

(Continued on page 3)

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "Main Street After Dark" and "Blonde Fever" appear on page 8.

IBEW Would Enjoin 'IA' Studio Unions

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 27.—The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers filed suit in Superior Court here today asking an injunction restraining the IATSE affiliated studio unions, Paramount, George Browne, Willie Bioff and 20 'John Does' from "interfering with the right of members to belong to IBEW or from getting studio work granted them by the Basic Studio Labor Agreement, including the exclusive right to handle sound equipment."

The suit asserts that the Electrical Workers became part of the Studio Mechanics Alliance in 1926, the year the basic agreement was negotiated, and in 1936 obtained a new clause giving their union the right to all work other than operating sound equipment. Since then, the suit charges, the IATSE has claimed that all work in sound pictures was under its jurisdiction, that IATSE president Browne in 1938 claimed jurisdiction over "anything pertaining to motion pictures" and was backed up by Bioff; that Harold V. Smith, head of the International Sound Technicians, and Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, demanded that everybody connected with pictures comply with the wage scales and conditions they laid down, claiming "falsely" that the National Labor Relations Board has certified the sound men as the exclusive representatives for the handling of all sound equipment.

Rathvon, Koerner to Set Rest of Program

N. Peter Rathvon, president of Radio-Keith-Orpheum, will leave New York on Friday, for Hollywood, to commence conferences there early next week with Charles W. Koerner, vice-president in charge of production. They will set plans for the remainder of RKO Radio's 1944-45 feature product.

'Blimp', 'Gilbey' Are Next Rank Releases

United Artists will release "Colonel Blimp" as its second J. Arthur Rank film, and "Her Man Gilbey" as the third. No dates have been set. "Mr. Emmanuel," first film to be released by UA under the recent agreement with Rank, has been set for Jan. 19.

AMPA Meets Nov. 30

A closed AMPA luncheon-meeting has been set for the Hickory House here Thursday, according to Martin Starr, president. Luncheon will be for members of AMPA and the trade press, and will be devoted to a discussion of the organization's plans to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the film industry.

Personal Mention

CHARLES EINFELD, Warner Bros. advertising and publicity head, left for California yesterday after six weeks in New York.

•

J. M. FRANKLIN, president of Franklin & Herschorn, operating theatres in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, was a recent Halifax, N. S., visitor from St. John.

•

RALPH CLARK, general manager for Warner Bros. in Canada, recently visited the St. John, N. B., exchange for conferences with L. MCKENZIE, branch manager.

•

LT. COMDR. ROBERT MONTGOMERY has been awarded the Bronze Star for meritorius achievement as operations officer of a destroyer on D-day.

•

HENDERSON M. RICHEY, director of exhibitors relations for M-G-M, has left for Dallas and Los Angeles. He will arrive at the Coast Nov. 30.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal Western district sales manager, returned to New York yesterday from Chicago and the West Coast.

•

JULES LEVEY, head of Warner Bros. real estate department, left yesterday on a two-week trip to the Midwest and South.

•

LT. BOLIVAR HYDE, USN, former district manager for Florida State Theatres, is in New York on Navy business.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres executive, left yesterday for a week's trip to the Midwest.

•

JOHN O'CONNOR, SR., owner of the Savoy, Glace Bay, N. S., is on the sick list.

•

IRWIN ZELTNER of the 20th Century-Fox home office exploitation staff, is in Detroit.

•

CAREY WILSON, M-G-M producer, has left New York for the Coast.

HUNT STROMBERG is expected in New York from the Coast today. TOM PARHAM, his comptroller, is with him.

•

JOHN LEROY JOHNSTON, director of studio publicity for International, will leave Hollywood for New York on Saturday to confer with S. BARRET MCCORMICK, RKO's advertising and publicity director.

•

RALPH OBER, ex-newspaperman and United Artists publicist, was a guest lecturer to the journalism class at City College, last night, discussing short story writing.

•

HATTON TAYLOR, RKO Montreal manager, was a recent visitor at the St. John, N. B., RKO branch for conferences with H. H. MCARTHUR, branch manager.

•

MARGARET DALY, daughter of MICHAEL DALY, owner of the Daly Theatre Circuit, Connecticut, is engaged to SGT. AL YESTER of Pennsylvania.

•

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, is expected to be discharged from the Fifth Avenue hospital here by the end of the week.

•

R. J. O'DONNELL, vice-president and general manager of Interstate Circuit of Texas, is a New York visitor.

•

GORDON LIGHTSTONE, Toronto manager for Paramount, visited the St. John, N. B., branch recently.

•

MANNY SHORE, owner of the War Theatre, War, W. Va., is ill in the Jewish Hospital, Cincinnati.

•

EARL J. HUDSON, president of United Detroit Theatres, Paramount affiliate, is in New York.

•

AL DAFF, of the Universal foreign department, is en route here from London.

No War Films From Internat'l: Goetz

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 27.—Outlining company policy for 1945, William Goetz, president of International Pictures, declares here: "It is not only Hollywood's duty to make its finest pictures in 1945, but there is no medium better equipped to serve the vital need of these times. Our policy will remain—no war pictures. We prefer to picture the way of life Americans fight to preserve, to come home to. We must offer those who work on the home front, and await the war's end, inviting and encouraging relief from the grimness and anxiety of the critical days before victory."

Speaks at Cinema Meet

U. S. Senior Commissioner Martin C. Epstein will be the principal speaker at a meeting of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, tonight at the Hotel Piccadilly.

British Cheer 'Henry'; Bookings Set Record

LONDON, Nov. 27.—The premiere of Two Cities Films' "Henry the Fifth" at the Carlton Theatre here tonight drew this country's most impressive wartime audience of socialities and governmental and military officials. The queue at the boxoffice was 150 yards long, and the acclamation was unprecedented.

Meanwhile, inquiries from all over the nation are reportedly pouring into the offices of J. Arthur Rank, asking when the film can be seen, and advance bookings constitute an all-time high for a British picture.

Gerber Back at WB

Lt. Morton Gerber has resumed work on general publicity as a member of Mort Blumenstock's publicity staff at the Warner Bros. home office. Gerber went on inactive status yesterday after serving two years in the Army.

Goldberg to Extend Circuit to Iowa

DES MOINES, Nov. 27.—Ralph D. Goldberg of Omaha has incorporated World Theatres with the Iowa secretary of state here and announced plans to open new theatres, after the war, in Des Moines, Davenport, Cedar Rapids, Council Bluffs and "possibly several other Iowa cities."

Goldberg now operates seven houses in Omaha, and one in Council Bluffs.

NEW YORK THEATRES

Hollywood's Pan-American Musical Romance!
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647
REPUBLIC THEATER
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
Irene DUNNE + Charles BOYER
'TOGETHER AGAIN'
with Charles Coburn
A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
10TH WEEK—RIVOLI
BROADWAY AND 49TH STREET

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
CARY GRANT
IN
"None But the Lonely Heart"
WITH
MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE
BARRY FITZGERALD

Alan Ladd ★ Loretta Young
in PARAMOUNT'S
"AND NOW TOMORROW"
In Person
GLEN GRAY
and the
Casa Loma Orchestra
ANDY RUSSELL
JERI SULIAVAN
SON & SONNY
WALLY BROWN and
ALAN CARNEY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

STATE
ON SCREEN
First N. Y. Showing!
M-G-M's
'AN AMERICAN ROMANCE'
IN TECHNICOLOR
starring
BRIAN DONLEVY
IN PERSON
CARMEN AMAYA
JOE BESSER

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Hollywood 6th Drive Air Show Dec. 6

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 27.—C. L. Menser, vice-president of National Broadcasting, has turned over a one-hour show as part of the war bond film rally to emanate from here Dec. 6. The show, matching the one held recently at Madison Square Garden in New York, will feature top screen stars from all studios.

Menser advised Harry Brandt, chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan Committee, that the NBC program will go on the air from 11:30 to 12:30 P.M., EWT, for the Eastern part of the nation and from 10 to 11 P.M. PWT for rebroadcast to the West. Mann Holiner, radio producer, who was placed on the inactive list by the Army as a Major, will direct the program for the industry, with Cornwell Jackson, radio chief of the Office of War Information here, acting as co-ordinator of stars and writers.

Ted Lloyd of 20th Century-Fox, radio chairman for the Sixth War Loan Drive, has arrived from New York to handle details on the program.

WAC to Hear Davis, Other U.S. Chiefs

(*Continued from page* 1)

pictures, and Maj. Orton Hicks of the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service.

George J. Schaefer, WAC chairman, will preside at the "open" luncheon meeting, and Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, will introduce the guests. Industry speakers will be: Harry Brandt, chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan committee; Ned E. Depinet, chairman, distributors division; Jack Alicoate, chairman, trade press division; Joseph McConville, chairman, foreign managers division; S. H. Fabian, chairman, theatres division; John C. Flinn, coordinator, Hollywood division, and Oscar A. Doob, chairman, public relations division. A report will be read for Walton C. Ament, chairman of the newsreels division.

The theatres division executive committee is scheduled to meet in a morning session, with the luncheon opening the joint meeting. A silent tribute will be paid to members of the industry who have given their lives for the United Nations, and resolutions of appreciation will be given to Arthur L. Mayer, former WAC executive, and Stanton Griffis, now deputy commissioner and commissioner, respectively, for the Red Cross in the Pacific Islands area.

On the agenda for the joint meeting will be nominations for a slate of WAC officers for 1945. A new chairman of the distributors' division, succeeding Depinet, will also be announced.

Ross Adds Quinn, McCoy

Joseph A. Quinn, ex-FBI operative, and James E. McCoy, ex-lieutenant of New York City police, have been appointed special assistants to Warner Baader, Ross Federal director of field investigators, according to D. A. Ross, general manager. Both will operate in the eastern division in cooperation with Jules Weill, division manager.

O'Donnell Reelected Chief Barker of Nat'l Variety

(*Continued from page* 1)

master, the latter succeeding J. Louis Rome of Baltimore.

The following local Variety Club barkers were elected national canvassmen representing their respective Clubs: Tent No. 1, Pittsburgh, Harry Finestein; Tent No. 2, Columbus, Bill Pancake; No. 3, Cincinnati, Allan Moritz; No. 4, St. Louis, Harry Crawford; No. 5, Detroit, Alex Schreiber; No. 6, Cleveland, Meyer Fine; No. 7, Buffalo, R. T. Murphy; No. 9, Albany, C. J. Latta; No. 10, Indianapolis, Carl Niesse; No. 11, Washington, John Allen; No. 12, Minneapolis, Al Steffes; No. 13, Philadelphia, Jack Beresin; No. 16, Omaha, E. J. Rubin; No. 17, Dallas, Claude Ezell; No. 18, Dayton, Roy E. Wells; No. 19, Baltimore, Lauritz Garman; No. 20, Memphis, M. A. Lightman; No. 21, Atlanta, Jack Dumestre; No. 22, Oklahoma City, Ralph Talbot; No. 23, Boston, Albert Kane; No. 24, Charlotte, H. H. Everett; No. 25, Los Angeles, Charles P. Skouras; No. 26, Chicago, Jack Kirsch.

The 10th annual meeting of National Variety Clubs will be held in New York on June 21-23, 1945.

For outstanding contributions to charity during the past year, Dallas Tent No. 17 was awarded a plaque by the Charity Citation Committee, comprising "Chick" Lewis, Chairman, J. J. Fitzgibbons and E. I. Rubin. In nine years, the Dallas tent raised and expended in excess of $450,000 for various philanthropies.

Also appointed to office were Lewis, re-designated national director of public relations; James Balmer, national ceremonial barker, and Johnny Maloney, chairman of the "Heart" committee.

National representatives appointed were: H. H. Everett, supervising Atlanta, Memphis and Charlotte tents and delegated to organize tents in New Orleans and Florida; James O. Cherry, supervising Dallas, Omaha and Kansas City; C. B. Akers, Oklahoma City and delegated to organize Salt Lake City and Des Moines; James Balmer, supervising Pittsburgh and Boston; Allan Moritz, Cincinnati and Columbus; Earle Sweigert, Washington, Philadelphia and Baltimore; C. J. Latta, supervising Buffalo and Albany; Irving Mack, supervising Chicago, St. Louis and Detroit; Jack Beresen, supervising Cleveland and Dayton and organizing tents in New Haven and Springfield, Mass.; Charles Skouras, supervising Los Angeles and delegated to organize tents in Seattle, Portland, Denver, San Francisco and Milwaukee.

A. K. (Rosey) Rowswell was again appointed chairman of the Humanitarian Awards Committee.

It was announced that Variety will open a New York business office in the near future, probably in the Paramount Building, and that club rooms for the use of members visiting in New York also will be established. The latter may be in the Hotel Astor. Variety does not have a New York tent, despite the fact that many from that city are identified with Variety and many more Variety members visit the city frequently.

National Legion Pledge on Dec. 10

(*Continued from page* 1)

429 films between Nov. 1943 and Nov., 1944.

Of the total reviewed, Monsignor McClafferty reported, 191 pictures, or 44.52 per cent, were in Class A-I, or "unobjectionable for general patronage"; 184, or 42.89 per cent, were Class A-II, "unobjectionable for adults"; 51, or 11.89 per cent, were Class B, "objectionable in part," and three pictures, or 0.70 per cent, were Class C, "condemned."

Decline Revealed

These figures, it was said, reveal a decline from the previous year in the percentage of Class A-I pictures. In 1943, Class A-I films represented 52.16 per cent of all films reviewed. They reveal an increase in the percentage of Class A-II films, to 34.40 per cent of all those reviewed. There was a slight decrease in Class B films, from 12.53 per cent, while films classified Class C, were 0.91 per cent in 1943, against 0.70 per cent in 1944.

The following members of the Bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures were present at the meeting: Bishop Francis P. Keough, Providence, chairman; Bishop John F. Noll, Fort Wayne; Bishop Joseph H. Albers, Lansing, and Bishop Bryan J. McEntegart, Ogdensburg, N. Y.

Shortages Concern Texas Allied Meet

DALLAS, Nov. 27.—The first day's meeting of the Texas Allied Theatre Owners here today was devoted to informal discussions by members on labor and material shortages, film prices and curtailed product. The industry's cut from 400 to 259 features came under discussion also.

Fifty members attended, with Col. H. A. Cole presiding. H. M. Richey, assistant to William Rodgers of the M-G-M home office, spoke on the companies' curtailed raw film stock quotas, saying it was the aim of M-G-M and the other companies to deal fairly with all exhibitors alike. He said that if the war was over quickly this would be alleviated, but as long as the war was on exhibitors and distributors would have to live with the situation.

No decisions were made on the issues at the meeting.

Publisher Macy in State Dept. Post

(*Continued from page* 1)

er County Publishers, Inc., which operates a group of newspapers, and also is co-owner of radio station WFAS. The international information division is responsible for the Department's interest and participation in the dissemination overseas of information through the media of films, radio and certain publications.

Holiday Business Brings Big Week To B'way Theatres

Outstanding business over the four-day Thanksgiving holiday is generally leading New York first-runs to excellent grosses this week, following a period of spotty receipts. "Together Again" at Radio City Music Hall, "And Now Tomorrow" at the Paramount, "30 Seconds Over Tokyo" at the Capitol and "Dark Waters" at the Globe are among those registering top grosses.

With a record four-day figure of $86,000, Music Hall expects $130,000 for the first week of "Together Again," with a stage show. "And Now Tomorrow," plus a stage show featuring Glen Gray and his Casa Loma orchestra, is expected to bring a terrific $97,000, for its first week at the Paramount, ending tonight. Charles M. Reagan, Paramount distribution head, predicts the film will be a top Paramount grosser. The Capitol expects a gratifying $80,000 for the second week of "30 Seconds Over Tokyo" and a stage presentation headlining Jimmy Dorsey and his band, with Henny Youngman. Business in the first week exceeded early expectations with over $80,000 recorded instead of the $75,000 indicated earlier. "Dark Waters" brought the Globe over $30,000 in its first week, which is splendid; the film will continue.

$73,000 for 'Irish'

The Roxy will end a third and final week of "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," and a stage show, with about $73,000, which is moderate. "Something for the Boys" and a "Cafe Society" stage show featuring Pearl Primus, Jimmy Savo and Mildred Bailey will open at the Roxy tomorrow. The Strand expects a strong $44,000 for its second week of "The Very Thought of You," with Abe Lyman and his band headlining the stage show; the combination will continue.

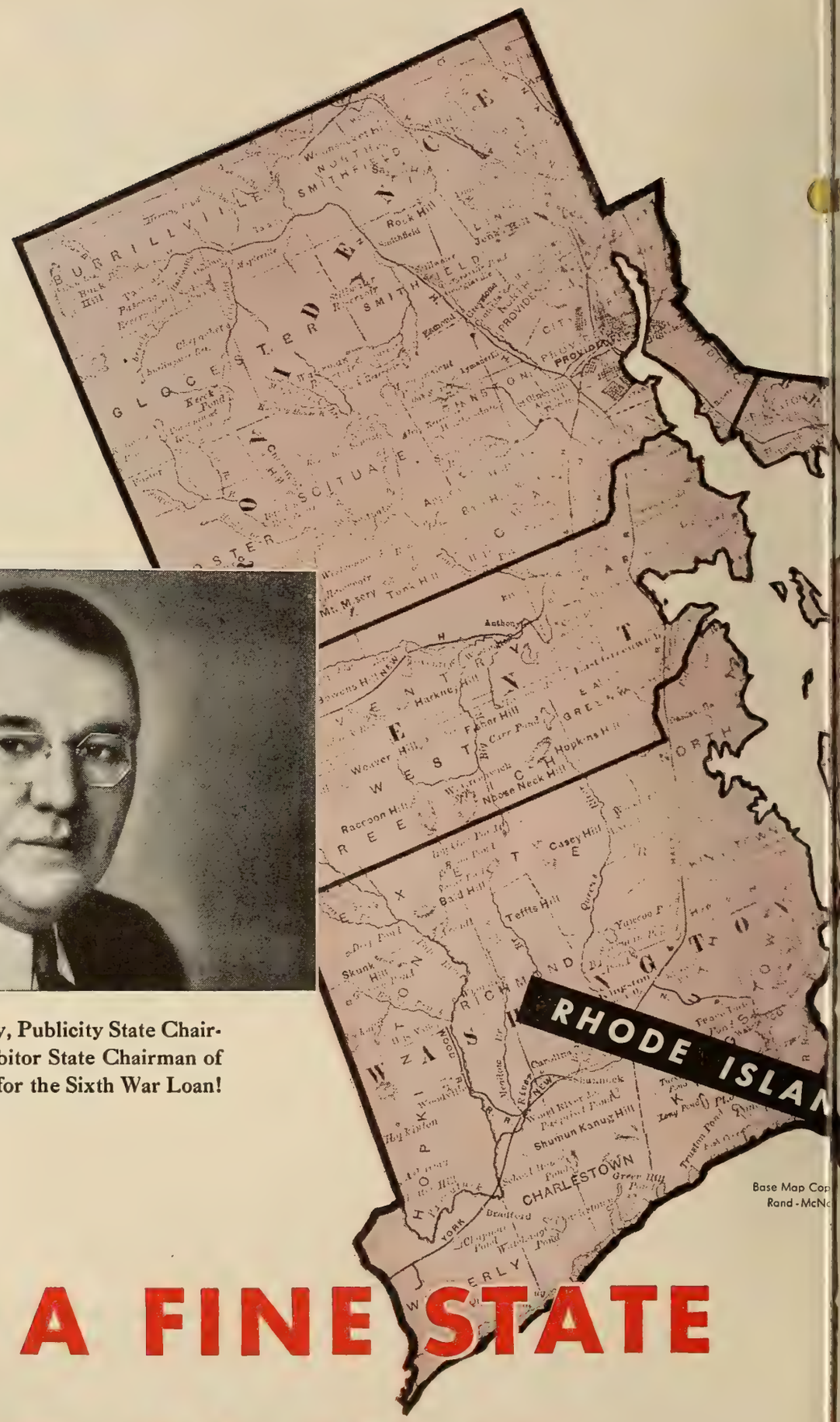
The second week of "None but the Lonely Heart" is expected to bring the Palace about $29,000; the film will hold over. "To Have and Have Not" is holding up well at the Hollywood, with $33,000 expected for the seventh week.

The final six days of 14 weeks of "Kismet," ending Sunday night, brought the Astor $12,000. "Meet Me in St. Louis" will open there today. "Frenchman's Creek" is giving the Rivoli about $35,000 in its 10th week; it, too, will continue.

"Bowery to Broadway" will open at the Criterion tomorrow with "Lost in a Harem" expected to bring $23,000 for its third and final week, ending tonight. "Brazil" is doing moderate business at the Republic, with $10,000 expected on the second week. "Summer Storm" is holding up excellently at the Gotham with $11,000 expected for a sixth week. The Rialto expects a moderate $9,000 on the week with "One Body Too Many"; the film will not hold. "Enter Arsene Lupin" will open at the Rialto Friday.

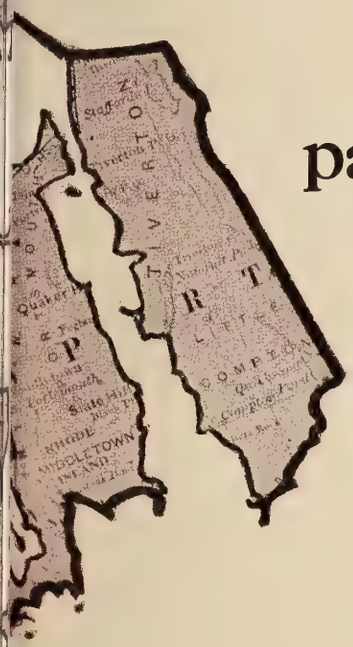
"Wilson" will conclude its Broadway run on Dec. 5 at the Victoria after playing an initial eight weeks at the Roxy. The 10th week at the Victoria is expected to bring a quiet $6,750.

Martin Toohey, Publicity State Chairman and Exhibitor State Chairman of Rhode Island for the Sixth War Loan!



"IT'S A FINE STATE TO BE IN !"

100% participation in War Bond Premieres—100% participation in Free Movie Day. Look at Rhode Island's record — then get busy to make your own measure up to it. If Rhode Island can do it 100%—so can you!



THE FIRST 100% STATE

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH IN *EVERY* STATE OF THE U.S.A.

This message was prepared and inserted in the trade press by: Columbia Pictures Corp., Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures, Paramount Pictures Inc.,

Divorcement Seen As Advantage for Distribution: Agnew

(Continued from page 1)

has a tougher job getting his pictures booked in key cities, who has to catch his bookings in between others to which affiliated theatres are committed, theatre divorcement would open up release channels a little better," Agnew said.

Sales of pictures singly, which most distribution executives in New York are agreed will result from the Government's proposed decree amendment prohibiting the "tying" of one feature to another, was characterized by Agnew as an uneconomic and impractical distribution process. The cost of selling would be prohibitive, he declared, and the industry couldn't cover ground fast enough to provide efficient, regional release, should such a selling system result. Releases would be severely retarded and congestion would increase.

Single billing of pictures would bring about an increase in buying circuits, with theatres banding together to buy, and eventually powerful buying combines might be created that would defeat the Government's aims.

Arbitration Beneficial

Agnew had praise for those provisions of the decree which require distributors to show their product to the exhibitor before selling. The arbitration setup, as now constituted, was also beneficial, he said.

Box offices throughout the country have sustained a decrease of about 10 per cent, Agnew said, which could be attributed to a slight diminishing of war production.

The trend toward independent production will continue, Agnew added, with the economic factor encouraging talent to make such a venture. Even in the postwar, this trend will proceed, but many who are now on the fringe and are getting by because of the times will be swept away.

Vanguard will soon establish representatives in London and Paris, and possibly Australia, to supervise the company's foreign business, he said. Studio space shortages, the tight color film situation and a lack of suitable story properties are the only limiting factors to Vanguard's production, as there is no dearth of talent, he said.

The company will move into its new offices about Dec. 10 or 15, at 400 Madison Ave., here.

Form Managers Guild

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 27.—Bay area theatre managers and assistants of the Golden State Theatre and Realty Corp. and of San Francisco Theatres, have formed the Motion Picture Theatre Managers' Guild, to operate as a division of the CIO's United Office and Professional Workers of America, Local 34, according to William Piehl, West Coast regional director of UOPWA.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and
Disc Recording Facilities

OWI Restores French Operations to Companies

(Continued from page 1)

ments have been completed to hand over to the companies, as of this week, accountings of film revenues which have accrued to date from films exhibited by the PWD. The OWI has, from time to time, reported to the companies on these monies, notably in the cases of North Africa, Italy and France.

The companies have agreed, the announcement said, to distribute OWI documentaries in France for the Government and to give those Government films the widest possible distribution through U. S. company facilities.

With return of distribution in France to the companies, which move was forecast in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Sept. 20, the problem of how to transfer film funds from France to the U. S. still looms as unsolvable in the near future. The French, it is believed, would be reluctant to permit transfer of any revenues, accumulated in francs, to the U. S. because of the complicated exchange question.

U. S. distributors, however, are still confronted with the problems of how to get key European representatives abroad, of actual physical reconstitution of their exchanges in France, and of chaotic transportation, a stumbling block to efficient distribution.

Distribution in Italy still remains in the hands of the PWD.

French Production May Be Cooperative

French production may become cooperative, if the plans of Jean Panleve, director of the film section of the French Ministry of Information, are adopted by the government, Richard de Rochemont, March of Time producer and president of France Forever, declared here yesterday in an interview. De Rochemont recently returned from six weeks in Paris to line up two MOT subjects, which material, he said, would be made available to the newsreel pool. Panleve advocates participants in production sharing in profits.

Panleve is also desirous of seeing French films sold on a percentage basis instead of outright, with producers getting a guarantee, de Rochemont said. There has been some talk in France of appointing a general sales representative for the U. S. who would handle all French product here.

Thirty-one theatres have reopened in the center of Paris, the MOT producer said, up to Nov. 17, with the Allied command operating another half-dozen houses for troops. Admission prices are up 40 per cent, de Rochemont said.

Official Newsreel

The French government intends to put out an official newsreel for France which would preclude the 20th Century-Fox, M-G-M or Paramount newsreels and the French companies from issuing their own newsreels in France. At the termination of hostilities, de Rochtmont said, the government reel will probably be withdrawn and private newsreels will be allowed to resume.

The French are very short of raw stock, the MOT producer said, and are being aided by the British and Americans.

Big problem facing the French industry, de Rochemont said, is that of passing on film personnel and giving them a "clean bill" on collaborationism. A Committee for Purification of the Cinema Industry has been formed which inspects all who have been in the business since 1940.

Many prints will be needed for distribution in France because of poor transportation, but U. S. companies can look forward to extended runs, he said.

Griffith Trust Trial Set for March 12

(Continued from page 1)

ants with undue court room advantages.

Vaught ordered Wright to prepare specific answers to the defense questions by Jan. 27, 1945.

The defendants now listed include Griffith Amusement Co., and Consolidated Theatres, Inc., both with headquarters in Oklahoma, and West-Tex Theatres, Inc., and Griffith, Inc., both of Dallas.

'Princess' Charms Chi.

CHICAGO, Nov. 27.—Samuel Goldwyn's "The Princess and the Pirate" grossed $19,000 in its first four days at the 1,200-seat Woods Theatre here. The first week's gross is running at the record rate of 340 per cent of average for the house.

Weitman's Mother Dies

Funeral services were held at the Park West Chapel here yesterday for Zelda Weitman, mother of Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre. Mrs. Weitman died of heart failure at the home of her daughter here Sunday.

Para. Officials at Blank Dedication

(Continued from page 1)

mount; Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president and theatre executive; Karl Hoblitzelle, president of Interstate Theatres, Dallas; R. J. O'Donnell, Interstate's general manager, and John Friedl, president of Minnesota Amusement Co., Minneapolis; also W. G. Gehring, Western sales manager for 20th Century-Fox.

The broadcast ceremonies will be covered by M-G-M, Paramount and 20th-Fox newsreeels.

The hospital is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Blank in memory of their son. Blank is president of Tri-States Theatres Corp., and of Central States Theatres. The hospital is said to be the only one in the country to contain mural decorations by Walt Disney.

Accepting the hospital for the people of Iowa will be Gov. B. B. Hickenlooper, U. S. Senator-elect.

Hornblow Heads Ass'n

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 27.—Arthur Hornblow, Jr., has been elected president of the Free World Association of Hollywood, succeeding Dudley Nichols, whose term recently expired.

Independents Aided By Decree: Hazen

(Continued from page 1)

and their affiliated circuits had a monopoly of screen time has been completely answered by the abolition of block booking and blind selling and the selling of films after they have been completed," Hazen said here yesterday. The result is better representation of independent product, he said.

Advance trade showings, Hazen contends, place the quality product of independents on a more or less selling par with films produced by major studios. Hazen also pointed out that since the decree major producers have extended loaning of talent to other producers.

Hazen probably will not participate in the forthcoming decree action of the Department of Justice. He is due to return to Hollywood in January when he and Wallis probably will put two additional films into production. "Don't Ever Grieve Me" is definitely set as the first of the two but "Whenever I Remember," which was originally planned for production in England by Wallis, might also be made in Hollywood. In that event, Hazen said, a fifth film will be made in England sometime next Spring, giving the production unit five films during its first year releasing through Paramount. Hazen plans to accompany Wallis to England.

New Conciliation Plan from FP-C

(Continued from page 1)

ing the general principle of trade conciliation, it was learned here today.

For the proposed Ontario board, the company recommended that any two members of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario be eligible for appointment to conciliation cases and not two independent exhibitor members of that association as stipulated in the draft of the code now under consideration. This association is made up of circuit associates or partners and independent theatre owners.

The code as drafted provides for eight board members, consisting of two distributors, two circuit representatives, two independent owners from the Ontario Council of Independent Exhibitors of Canada and two independent exhibitors named by the MPTA of Ontario. Famous Players has objected to limitation of MPTA representation to independents, which would mean such appointees could be circuit men or otherwise, it is understood.

Famous Players does not object to Odeon representation for circuits, while Odeon Theatres of Canada and its affiliates hold membership in MPTA of Ontario as well as the Famous Players group.

Army Paper Lauds Stars

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 27.—The *CBI Roundup*, Army newspaper in the Far Eastern theatre, which last month charged prominent stars with "dogging it,' today praised two stars touring that area, Pat O'Brien and Jinx Falkenberg.

Herald Flies with Films To War Front in Asia

***THE U. S. ARMY** is operating the biggest film distribution service in the Eastern world. It is the great central India Film Exchange which serves the armed forces in India, Burma and China. The manager is Captain Thomas G. Bostic, U. S. Signal Corps, officer in charge.*

Motion Picture Herald with its living catalogue of production, the Product Digest section, has been found so essential an instrument of service, that arrangements have been made to have it flown half around the world along with the films. The bearer, in shirt-tail, receiving a shipment of film - and - Herald, is an assistant in the film library of the India Film Exchange.

from

MOTION PICTURE HERALD

the Great Journal of the Great Industry

'G. I.' Finally Starts; 44 in Work on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 27. — After several months of inactivity, production has been resumed on Lester Cowan's "G. I. Joe." Six other features also went into work and eight were completed. The total in work stood at 44. Production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "The Crime Doctor's Trap" (formerly "Untitled Crime Doctor").

Shooting: "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal," "A Thousand and One Nights," "Leave It to Blondie," "One Against Seven," "Men of the Deep."

M-G-M

Finished: "Son of Lassie."

Shooting: "Alter Ego," "Weekend at the Waldorf," "Without Love," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Hold High the Torch," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Started: "Fashion Model," with Robert Lowery, Marjorie Weaver, Tim Ryan.

Shooting: "Make Way for Kelly."

Paramount

Shooting: "The Virginian," "Scared Stiff," "The Lost Weekend," "The Love Letters," "The Affairs of Susan," "Duffy's Tavern."

PRC

Finished: "Crime, Inc."

Shooting: "Barber of Red Gap."

RKO Radio

Finished: "The Wonder Man" (Goldwyn); "The Body Snatcher."

Started: "The Spanish Main," with Paul Henreid, Maureen O'Hara, Walter Slezak, John Emery, Nancy Gates, Jack LaRue.

Shooting: "Along Came Jones" (International); "Invisible Army," "The Enchanted Cottage."

Republic

Finished: "Three's a Crowd," "Swingin' on a Rainbow," "Jealousy" (Gustav Machaty).

Started: "Behind the Ship" (cast not announced); "Lone Texas Ranger," with Bill Elliott, Alice Fleming, Bobby Blake, Helen Talbot.

Shooting: "Earl Carroll Vanities," "Johnny March" (Walter Colmes).

20th Century-Fox

Started: "First, Last and Always," with Fred MacMurray, Lynn Bari, James Gleason; "The Bullfighters," with Laurel and Hardy.

Shooting: "A Bell for Adano," "Molly, Bless Her," "Circumstantial Evidence," "A Royal Scandal."

United Artists

Resumed Shooting: "G. I. Joe" (Cowan), with Burgess Meredith, Robert Mitchum, Jack Reilly, Wally Cassell, Bill Murphy, Freddie Steele.

Shooting: "A Walk in the Sun" (Bronston), "Blood on the Sun" (Cagney), "Bedside Manner" (Andrew Stone).

Universal

Shooting: "Romance, Inc.," "Salome—Where She Danced," "Here Come the Co-Eds."

Warners

Shooting: "Hotel Berlin," "The Big Sleep," "San Antonio."

Reviews

"Main Street After Dark"

(M-G-M)

Hollywood, Nov. 27

IN 57 minutes, this attraction is M-G-M's first offering in the cause of streamlined features to accompany attractions with mileage, whether its own or some other distributor's. The preference, obviously, is all for its own.

This latest experiment in rounding out the show—there were the Roach Streamliners, of course—terminates in the middling-to-less division. Jerry Bresler produced well. Edward Cahn, the director, had competence in his cast, which includes Edward Arnold, Selena Royle, Hume Cronyn, Dan Duryea and an interesting newcomer of potentialities named Audrey Totter. But story values are too thin and those 57 minutes too long to carry this melodramatic yarn of a criminal mother, her two sons and daughter and her daughter-in-law all of them outside the law.

The opening is slow and laden with incidental detail which adds footage and piles on running time without progressing the plot. There are repetitive scenes at headquarters where service men who have been 'rolled' for their wallets are questioned. There is no developed reason for the hostility between Miss Royle and Miss Totter.

"Main Street After Dark" is constructed of the same material out of which M-G-M made its successful "Crime Doesn't Pay" series. The results, in three minutes less than an hour, do not parallel the values obtained when approximately 20 minutes were the limitation. Thus, while this would have been a member in superior standing in two reels, it fares decidedly less fortunately in five.

Wallet-snatching, a bank murder and how both are solved through the use of fluorescent powder and ultra violet rays make up the shallow story line. Arnold, as minion of the law, runs the gang to earth through scientific methods, but not before Duryea is killed.

Running time, 57 minutes. "G."* No release date set.

RED KANN

"Blonde Fever"

(M-G-M)

MASQUERADING behind this lowly title is a delicious high comedy of the Ferenc Molnar school, cleverly adapted, in fact, by Patricia Coleman from a Molnar play and neatly turned out to delight the discriminating, under Richard Whorf's talented direction.

Happily from a box office standpoint, the undiscriminating should relish it also, for the authors face nothing deeper than the infatuation between a fading cafe owner and his budding cigarette girl, and their plight is shown as enormously funny in spite of being just a little sad. Philip Dorn and Gloria Grahame, in these roles, have some wonderful scenes: she resisting his sophistication; he, her charms—and both pursuing in odd moments when resistance is low. Mary Astor as his understanding yet fighting wife balances the picture to perfection, while Felix Bressart, who tends bar, rounds it out with the droll commentary of one quieted by age. The show remains, however, to be stolen, again and again, by Marshall Thompson, the young girl's boy friend, a fledgling waiter, essence of awkward youth, who flies into a blaze when anybody uses the word 'callow.'

The slim plot, a mere frame for sturdy dialogue, turns on a winning lottery ticket, which changes hands several times and which proves the key to the blonde's affections. William H. Wright produced the film handsomely. Nataniel Shilkret's music score is good and of unusual importance. And the costumes supervised by Irene should not and will not escape attention.

Running time, 69 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

TOM LOY

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Ascap Wins Suit On Neb. Royalties

OMAHA, Nov. 27.—Two suits which sought to recover approximately $350,000 in royalties paid to Ascap by radio station WOW here and 24 leading Nebraska hotels and restaurants, were dismissed in state superior court today by Judge James Fitzgerald. Trial of the actions was held here last June, with Louis D. Frohlich of Schwartz and Frohlich, New York, representing Ascap.

The actions to recover the royalties paid to Ascap were brought after the Supreme Court had upheld several sections of the state's so-called anti-Ascap law.

'Tokyo' Sold Separately

"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" will be sold separately as a special, William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager for M-G-M, announced here yesterday.

Exclusive Spanish Theatre for Texas

SAN ANGELEO, Tex., Nov. 27.—The immediate construction, if possible, and postwar building if priorities are withheld, of a 1,000-seat theatre for the exclusive showing of Latin-American films, was announced here today, by John D. Jones, Concho Theatre manager. Cost of the theatre will approximate $50,000. Decision to build was reached after a meeting here of C. V. Jones, general manager of Robb and Rowley, and John Rowley of R. and R.'s Dallas office.

In making the announcement, John Jones declared, "In view of the growing Latin-American population here, and the improvement noted in Spanish-language pictures, we feel that the new departure is warranted."

Trade Show 'Caballeros'

"The Three Caballeros," Walt Disney feature, will be trade shown nationally by RKO on Dec. 11.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 27

HERBERT J. YATES, president of Republic, has authorized increased expenditure for musical films at that studio. During the past two-and-a-half years, Republic's budget for musicals has been upped several hundred percent. Two major productions of this type are now in work: "Earl Carroll Vanities" and "Song of Mexico," which is being filmed there.

•

John English will direct "Utah," the next Roy Rogers Western at Republic. . . . Glen Langan has been added to the cast of "The Dolly Sisters" at 20th Century-Fox. . . . Edward Lilley has been signed to direct Universal's "Gift of Gab," story of a radio announcer.

•

Marjorie Weaver has been signed for the feminine lead opposite Robert Lowery in "Fashion Model," which William Beaudine will direct for Monogram. . . . Senorita Fely Franquelli, ballerina, has been engaged by RKO Radio for the top feminine role in "The Invisible Army," which stars John Wayne. . . . Richard Sale, who wrote "Not Too Narrow, Not Too Deep," which M-G-M produced under another title with Clark Gable and Joan Crawford, has been signed to a long-term writing contract by Paramount.

McCarthy to Meet PRC Managers

Managers of the newly-acquired PRC exchanges Fred Scheuerman, Cleveland; Harry Bugie, Cincinnati; William Flemion, Detroit; Lew Lefton, Pittsburgh; Harry Stern, Los Angeles; Jack Adams, Dallas; and Harry Rogers, Omaha-Des Moines, will be in individual conferences with Leo J. McCarthy, general sales manager, who left New York yesterday for a tour of exchanges. He will be gone until Dec. 18.

Lefton's Exchanges Retain Personnel

CLEVELAND, Nov. 27. — Announcing the sale of his franchises in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Detroit to PRC Pictures, Nat Lefton declared that the personnel of each office will remain unchanged. Lefton will devote his time hereafter to his building business and other outside interests.

Lynch Joins Birdwell

Ware Lynch has joined the New York office of Russell Birdwell and Associates as an account executive. He was formerly with Lennen and Mitchell, Philip Morris, Arthur Kudner, American Museum of Natural History and the Hotel Pierre. For the past year he has been with General Electric in Bridgeport, Conn.

New Wharf Theatre

BOSTON, Nov. 27. — A new Wharf Theatre, to play films and legitimate shows, will be erected on the site of the old Provincetown Theatre on Cape Cod. Lady Ambrose Gosling, former Margaret Hews, who once owned the Provincetown, will sponsor the project.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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Mixed Needs in Capital for PostwarPeriod

Freon and Manpower Are Cited As No. 1 Needs

By AL SHERMAN

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—"Let home offices worry about post-war planning" is the tenor of a survey conducted by MOTION PICTURE DAILY here to determine postwar needs of theatres and exchanges. This is especially true of exchange managers. However, among theater operators it develops that the one item given the most postwar consideration is freon gas. Carter Barron, Loew's Theaters division manager, placed that item as No. 1 need. Frank Boucher, general manager for Kogod-Burka Theaters, agreed. And replenishment of staffs is the No. 1 need of exchanges.

Of exchange men approached only one, Sam Galanty, Columbia's Mid-east division manager, committed

(*Continued on page* 9)

Schenck Reports 19 'Dimes' Chiefs

Nicholas M. Schenck, national chairman of the 1945 March of Dimes drive, to be conducted in theatres during the week of Jan. 25-31, received yesterday 19 more acceptances of state drive chairmanships from exhibitor leaders. Seven were reported Monday. The new acceptances follow:

Carter Barron, John J. Payette, co-chairmen, District of Columbia; Jack Kirsch, Maurice M. Rubens, Illinois; Harry Katz, K. T. Collins, Indiana;

(*Continued on page* 10)

OWI Names Perkins Aide in Far East

Robert Perkins, Universal manager in Manila and Japan prior to the war, has been named by the Office of War Information overseas branch to assist Michael Bergher in a Far Eastern film operation which is in the process of formation, it is understood.

Perkins, prior to his association with Universal, was with Paramount in Shanghai and Manila. He was repatriated on the *Gripsholm* in 1942 and served in the Army for two years, having just been honorably discharged. He is the son of James Perkins, Far Eastern division manager for Paramount.

MGM Plans 3 Video Outlets

Loew's has filed applications with the Federal Communications Commission for permission to construct three television stations, one each in New York, Washington and Los Angeles, to involve an estimated minimum outlay of $1,000,000. General Electric equipment is specified, with high-definition transmission indicated.

M-G-M Studios, Inc. seeks the Los Angeles outlet which would be assigned to Channel No. 8 (162-168 megacycles), while Marcus Loew Booking Agency seeks Channel 17 (282-288 megacycles) for New York and Channel No. 8, in Washington. Applications were filed through Herbert L. Pettey, director of WHN, Loew's New York radio station, and Herbert Bingham, Washington attorney.

Warner Bros. has pending an application for permission to construct a television station in Hollywood and has already acquired property upon which to build a station.

Paramount already has extensive in-

(*Continued on page* 9)

Ritchey, Out of Navy, Back with Monogram

Norton V. Ritchey, who for the past two years has served as a lieutenant in the Navy, has been placed on inactive status and has rejoined Monogram as vice-president in charge of the foreign department. Mrs. N. Witting will continue as his assistant.

Bob O'Donnell Still Owes Blank a Steer

Des Moines, Nov. 28.—A. H. Blank is still waiting for Robert J. O'Donnell of Dallas to pay off a Texas steer on that Fifth War Loan bet of last Summer when O'Donnell wagered a steer against Blank's Iowa hog that Texas would beat Iowa in war bond sales. Blank and Iowa won.

O'Donnell, however, is not welching — neither he nor Blank can get together enough red points required by the OPA to slaughter the prize.

10,354 Bond Events Set

A total of 10,354 special events have been booked by theatres for the Sixth War Loan Drive, including 3,254 'Bond Premieres,' 772 'Children's Premieres' and 6,328 'Free Movie Days.'

The figures include pledges up to last week, and many territories that show few premieres are now active lining up others, not definitely booked. Indications are that the sixth drive is well ahead of the fifth in these special events.

Of the Bond Premieres, 1,016 are in towns of less than 7,500 population, as are 297 of the Children's Premieres.

The distributors committee of the

(*Continued on page* 10)

Only 15 Actual War Films For the Turn of the Year

Distributors are approaching the turn of the year with less than a dozen and a half "top" war films ready for release, to be released early in the year or in planning or production stages at their studios in Hollywood. The number is the lowest since the ominous days before Pearl Harbor. And of the group several are not classified as out-and-out war films, but, rather, are postwar rehabilitation themes or servicemen's stories without actual fighting.

Among the top war films ready for release or planned for early release in 1945 are: M-G-M's "30 Seconds Over Tokyo," 20th Century-Fox's "Winged Victory" and "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," and Columbia's "One Against Seven," based on the play "Counterattack," and RKO's

(*Continued on page* 10)

Urges Film Stamp On Christmas Mail

Citing the recent issuance by the Post Office Department of the commemorative stamp honoring the 50th anniversary of the commercial film industry, as "a very significant occurrence in the public relations of our industry," Claude Lee, Paramount executive, yesterday urged every employee in the industry to use only the commemorative stamp on Christmas cards, and on correspondence generally, as a contribution in this public relations promotion.

Divorcement To Take Years, Says D. of J.

May Be 2 Years Before Supreme Court Gets Case

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28. — A number of years may be required for the disposition of the distributor-owned theatres if the Government is successful in its effort to divorce them through expansion of the film consent decree, it was said here today at the Department of Justice.

Even if trial of the suit is started in the near future, as desired by the Government, at least two years is seen required to get it to the point of a Supreme Court decision.

Assuming a decision favorable to the Government, it would then be

(*Continued on page* 10)

Industry Fund May Perpetuate MPSA

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—Plans for establishing the Motion Picture Society for the Americas as a permanent organization, wholly financed by the industry, will be discussed by the society's board of directors, comprising heads of all studios, at a special meeting Dec. 7.

Set up as a liaison between the studios and the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, the society faces possible dissolution at the end of the fiscal year, June next. Harold Hopper, society president, will be chairman of the meeting.

22,825 'Free-Gift' Features Overseas

War Activities Committee headquarters here yesterday disclosed that 22,825 feature prints and prints of 24,359 short subjects have been sent to the Army Overseas Film Exchange for showing to troops since inception of the program by the industry.

This week's delivery of the 16-mm gift-prints includes M-G-M's "Strike

(*Continued on page* 10)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Belle of the Yukon" appears on page 9.

Personal Mention

OSCAR A. DOOB, Loew Theatres director of advertising and publicity, has received a gold coin from the Canadian government inscribed, "Canada Thanks OSCAR A. DOOB" in recognition of his Canadian War Loan work.

•

LT. (j.g.) MYRON N. BLANK, executive of the Tri-States Theatre Corp., on leave, and his wife, are in Des Moines for the dedication of the RAYMOND BLANK Memorial Hospital for Children on Dec. 3.

•

G. RALPH BRANTON, general manager of Tri-States Theatres Corp., has been named to the general committee to launch a $2,000,000 campaign for Drake University at Des Moines.

•

BENJAMIN Y. CAMMACK, RKO Southwestern district manager, has been married in Oklahoma City to JULIA MARY SIMS.

•

STUART LEGG, editor of the World in Action films, has just returned to Canada from England and France. He will come to New York later this week.

•

DAVE BADER, 20th Century-Fox trade press representative, has been elected to the board of governors of the 20th Century-Fox Family Club.

•

JOEL BEZAHLER, home office assistant to J. E. FLYNN, M-G-M Western sales manager, will leave here Friday on a Western business trip.

•

GRACIE ALLEN christened a tanker at Chester, Pa., yesterday and donated the $1,000 bond given her as a prize award to workers.

•

ROSE KLEIN of the M-G-M home office statistical department, is vacationing in upper New York State.

•

HOWARD KUMMERLY, manager of Warner's Lane, Philadelphia, will take a leave of absence due to illness.

•

B. B. KREISLER, vice-president and general manager of Lester Cowan productions, is in Washington.

•

E. K. O'SHEA, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, will leave New York for Jacksonville Dec. 5.

•

DON JACOCKS, owner of a circuit in New England, will leave for Boston from New York today.

•

EDMUND GOULDING, Warner Bros. director, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

TOM DONALDSON, M-G-M Boston branch manager, leaves New York for Boston today.

•

BOB WILLIAM of the Warner Studio publicity staff is in New York for about a week.

•

GEORGE TRENDLE of Detroit is in New York.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 28

KEY to the lowdown on the reconstituted situation at Paramount is in the opener of that 41-word statement which told of a new contract for Henry Ginsberg under which he "assumes full charge of the management and operation of the Paramount studio, including all its production activities." The opener read, "Barney Balaban and Y. Frank Freeman announced," etc.

Nothing of the accidental is party to this, for it was Freeman who insisted with Balaban that the only way to run the lot was to filter all authority through one individual. No detours, no branch-offs. No nothing, except one central executive.

■

How it came about is interesting.

Until a few months ago, Paramount had no outside producers. There is a difference between the setups under which the Cecil B. De Mille and the Pine-Thomas units operate. There is a surface autonomy which travels along with both of them. De Mille makes his pictures under his own name on the home lot. The two Bills—Pine and Thomas—make theirs off the lot and under their own name. In both cases, complete financing is met by the parent company.

This column earlier had reported the Hal Wallis and the Buddy De Sylva arrangements. Wallis, never previously with Paramount, now is a partner; he and Paramount share finances. De Sylva, the former executive producer, has put up money, too. This places both producers in business with Paramount and sets up a relationship which is not matched by De Mille and Pine-Thomas.

■

The breakaway from the old-line policy of self-controlled production, which developed with the Wallis and De Sylva situations, created rumblings which echoed sufficiently loud to be heard on the outside. Whereas there, perhaps, was more understanding in the instance of De Sylva because he had been with the company, the same measure of comprehension did not always exist in the instance of Wallis, who had not been with the company.

It took its form on the insistence of Freeman, moreover. It was he who persistently maintained with Balaban that Ginsberg must have complete and unquestioned say. Freeman maintained there was no other way of going about it. Because Balaban came to Hollywood to effect the necessary arrangements, he was perfectly willing to abide by what Ginsberg wanted and what Freeman insisted Ginsberg ought to have. The deal, thereafter, was agreed upon in a night conference.

■

The natural speculation trailing all this is what about Freeman? If it is Ginsberg who will run production complete, what will Freeman be doing? The answer is this:

He will continue, as he has until now, to represent the board of directors at the fountain head: production.

He will confer, collaborate, advise with Ginsberg, as in the past.

Balaban says Freeman's status is absolutely without impairment of any description, that he is what he was before: the general overseer, a sort of elder statesman and the contact point between the studio and the home office.

But on production and its varied manifold decisions, Ginsberg is the man.

■

In the delicate see-saw of studio versus creator relationships and in these days when many feel they are working for glory, not dollars, it should precipitate no surprise that dissatisfaction threatened in other directions. Ginsberg, who became production head after De Sylva stepped down, was thoroughly aware of this. He knew what his problem was. He expected at the outset, and he is aware now, that the need for tact, diplomacy and balanced judgment will run to unbounded lengths.

■

Since it appears to be company policy to stay at its present juncture insofar as outside units may be concerned, the problem confronting him, as the executive running production, simply becomes one of keeping all possible hands happy and all possible heads steady under conditions new to Paramount. The dictates of proper administration, of course, make it required to collaborate closely with both Wallis and De Sylva. The dictates, however, impose identical requirements for other producers who work directly for the company.

This can be more of a job than any straightaway account may suggest.

■

At any rate and unless it were to be clearly established that he — Ginsberg — was the spigot through which every phase of production management and operation were to flow, more difficulties than had already asserted themselves might have proven inevitable.

It is not unduly difficult to envision how this might work. If 'X' wanted something or other from Ginsberg, who felt it inadvisable to grant, hypothetically 'X' might have tried blandishment on Freeman. 'X' may not have gotten anywhere, but in the very bypassing of Ginsberg for Freeman—could be in reverse as well—were the seeds of diffused authority at the top. In any organization as large as Paramount, this is not desirable from the viewpoint of management.

■

Therefore, it became obvious that action was necessary. Action was what brought Balaban West, and action followed in short order. The two unexpired years of Ginsberg's contract were tossed aside and a new seven-year agreement determined. It is being set up on the basis of the formal announcement, vesting in him full charge.

Col. Cole Reelected By Allied of Texas

DALLAS, Nov. 28.—Closing a two-day session here today, Allied Theatre Owners of Texas re-elected Col. H. A. Cole president; Rubin Frels, H. S. Leon, B. R. McLendon, Mrs. Martha McSpadden and R. N. Smith, vice-presidents, and A. W. Lilley, secretary-treasurer.

The directors are Otto Schmid, Will Dorbandt, L. C. Tidball, H. R. Bisby, Lee Bell, Henry Sparks, P. V. Williams, Phil Isley, Lonnie Legg, W. J. Cheshire and H. Ford Taylor.

The Texas group unanimously approved National Allied's consent decree recommendations to the Federal government.

The threat of television had many members worried, but Cole stated he did not think theatre men need worry for another five years at least, due to the fact that it would be some time before mechanical bugs were worked out of the new medium, and that clearing up the commercial angles would take still more time.

Schancer Quits 20th

Kay Schancer, secretary to Jules Fields, publicity manager of 20th Century-Fox here, has resigned, effective this week. She had been with the company for the past 11 years.

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Judy Garland gets no privacy for sparking when little sister Margaret O'Brien invades the Cozy Corner

M-G-M's

Glorious **TECHNICOLOR** Romance

with Song, Gaiety and Heart-throbs

Starring

JUDY GARLAND

WITH

MARGARET O'BRIEN

Mary Astor

Lucille Bremer

Tom Drake

Marjorie Main

SCREEN PLAY BY IRVING BRECHER AND FRED F. FINKLEHOFFE · BASED ON THE BOOK BY SALLY BENSON

DIRECTED BY VINCENTE MINNELLI

PRODUCED BY ARTHUR FREED

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

CLANG! CLANG! CLANG! GOES THE TROLLEY!

"THE TROLLEY SONG" a nationwide hit is just one of the seven great melodies—merry ones, romantic ones!

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS
M-G-M's
Glorious TECHNICOLOR Romance
with Song, Gaiety and Heart-throbs
Starring
JUDY GARLAND
WITH
MARGARET O'BRIEN
Mary Astor
Lucille Bremer
Tom Drake
Marjorie Main
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

POST CARD

"Meet Me in St. Louis" is a World's Fair in itself! See you soon!

Judy Garland
Margaret O'Brien

WORLD'S FAIR ST. LOUIS 1904

Mr. J. P. Exhibitor,
Everywhere,
U. S. A.

CLANG! CLANG! CLANG! GOES THE TROLLEY!

"THE TROLLEY SONG" a nationwide hit is just one of the seven great melodies—merry ones, romantic ones!

FESTIVE CROWDS! SHATTERED RECORDS!

THAT ST. LOUIS WORLD PREMIERE!

Leo the showman's greatest and gayest of all promotions launched this box-office sweetheart to a record-breaking start. With Technicolor's brightest banners flying the good news from jubilant St. Louis echoes right to your waiting public.

Everybody's saying...

"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"

ASTOR

GALA GOLD-GETTING PRE-RELEASE!

THAT BROADWAY PREMIERE!

A terrific hit at M-G-M's house of hits! Golden M-G-M showmanship tells movie millions about the star-studded goldmine attraction whose happy heart-story, love songs, and rich Technicolor entertainment will soon enthrall the nation!

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP MGM

LITHO U.S.A.

Kilroe Writes on Copyright Law

An extensive lecture on copyright laws and copyright history of the United States, England and France, given last Friday before the Practicing Law Institute by Edwin P. Kilroe, has been published and is now being distributed by Kilroe, who is copyright adviser to 20th Century-Fox and chairman of the copyright committee of the MPPDA.

1 Award Reversed, Clearance Reduced

Nominal 21-day clearance which the State theatre, Saugus, Mass., is subject to after the following first-run Lynn theatres: Warner, Paramount and Olympia, has been restored by the New York Appeal Board, following its reduction by arbitrator John Daly of the Boston tribunal, to 14 days, the American Arbitration Association has reported here. State Theatre originally filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies. Richard B. Rubin is the operator of the State.

Other terms of the arbitrator's award were sustained by the board: dismissal of the complaint insofar as it pertained to the supply of product by Warners to the Warner, Lynn, and by the Paramount to the Paramount and Olympia, Lynn, stands; and no clearance shall be granted to the Granada, Strand and Mystic theatres in Malden over the State as to pictures with respect to which the State is subject to clearance in favor of Lynn theatres; and the maximum clearance over the State which may be granted to Malden theatres on pictures with respect to which the State is not subject to Lynn theatre clearance shall be 14 days.

New England Theatres, Massachusetts Amusement, Middlesex Amusement and Melrose Theatre Co. intervened.

Buffalo Case

At the same time, the AAA reported that the Genesee Theatre, Buffalo, operated by Basil Bros. Theatres, has had its clearance reduced to seven days after the Baily Theatre, operated by Dipson Theatres. Basil in its clearance complaint against the five consenting companies in the Buffalo tribunal asked that the 14-day clearance after the Baily be eliminated. Dipson Theatres was an intervenor.

PRC in New Brunswick

St. John, N. B., Nov. 28.—PRC has opened a sales branch here covering the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. James Kalfas, former salesman at company's Montreal branch, has been named manager.

Canadian Pioneers' Meet

Toronto, Nov. 28.—Canadian Picture Pioneers will hold its annual meeting tomorrow at the King Edward Hotel here. Clair Hague, president, will preside. Membership is now 300.

Review

"Belle of the Yukon"

(*International-RKO*)

Hollywood, Nov. 28

RANDOLPH SCOTT, Gypsy Rose Lee, Dinah Shore and Bob Burns stack up as names for any exhibitor's marquee. He gets them, plus competent support by way of Charles Winninger, William Marshall, Robert Armstrong, Guinn (Big Boy) Williams and Florence Bates in "Belle of the Yukon."

But that's not all. He also gets a color-musical laid on with a lavish and splashing hand, in a locale which other big-scale musicals have not yet invaded: the Alaska of Robert W. Service. That makes it a time when the country was raw-boned, when trigger-fingers were constantly alert to the draw and when dance halls, hard-likker and life at large were rough and tumble.

Atmospherically, producer-director William A. Seiter recognized his opportunities and met them with a genuine degree of professional accomplishment. He depended upon his comedy and his story involvements for a screenplay written by James Edward Grant who, in turn, based his handiwork on a story by Houston Branch.. The results are mixed and uneven.

When it is a musical, "Belle of the Yukon" stands representatively alongside the long line of its noteworthy predecessors. When it is a comedy or melodrama, it encounters the obstacles commonly met when a musical stops its singing and dancing and gets into story. Had there been more emphasis on the musical and less on the plot in this case, such a switch in emphasis probably would have added to the sum total.

Miss Lee, for instance, does the "Every Girl Is Different" number, her only one, in the style with which she is identified. It is amusing and well-done, but there is not enough of Miss Lee in that same mood. Most of the time she is called upon to act. It is Miss Shore, with that appealing, throaty voice, who does the chief vocalizing and does it with her usual competence and efficiency. "Sleigh Ride in July" is her best number of three, but the other two are good.

Story-wise, there is Scott, confidence man settled in Malamute as a scene of easy pickings. Assorted confederates include Winninger and Burns. Miss Lee, up from Seattle with her girls, to play the Emporium, knows Scott and his tendencies from earlier and romantic experience. Intersections of the plot find Marshall, in love with Miss Shore and vice versa, also in trouble with the police. The snarls are finally cleared away and the shady life foregone in the finals. Marshall gets Miss Shore and it is suggested Miss Lee may have gotten Scott. At any rate, all hands appear happy.

Cast values and size make this a ballyhoo attraction. Its color and its background lend themselves to advertising and general handling in kind. Consistent and sustained "plugging" probably will assert their need and their value.

Running time, 84 minutes. "G." Release date, Jan., 1945. RED KANN

"G" denotes general classification.

M-G-M Plans Three Television Outlets

(*Continued from page 1*)

terests in television through DuMont television and Scophony, and Paramount's Balaban and Katz has a station in Chicago; 20th Century-Fox has an interest in Scophony through General Precision Equipment. RKO's current interest in television is in the programming field through RKO Television Corp.

TBA Expects Record Turnout At Meeting

A record attendance is anticipated at the first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association at the Hotel Commodore here Dec. 11-12, based upon the advance registrations that have already been received at TBA offices, that organization reports.

Plans for the two-day event are nearly complete with advertising agency executives and television producers listed to participate in panel meetings.

Discuss WLB WageBoost

Film exchange operational heads and representatives of the IATSE will meet here this morning to discuss several applications for wage increases and job classifications for exchange office and service workers which have been approved by the Regional War Labor Boards.

Haskin Will Direct For Wallis-Hazen

Hollywood, Nov. 28.—Byron Haskin, who recently resigned as head of Warner Bros. studio special effects department, has been signed by Hal Wallis-Joseph Hazen Productions as a director and in an executive capacity.

Haskin, a cameraman before taking over Warners' special effects department, seven years ago, is said to have recently developed a new color process. Besides Haskin, Wallis' production staff now includes Jack Saper, production and business manager, Martin Jurow, in charge of talent, and John Mock, story editor.

Para. Partners in N. Y. for WAC Meet

Paramount's theatre partners are expected in New York for the annual meeting of the War Activities Committee here tomorrow, among them R. J. O'Donnell, Earl J. Hudson, Karl Hoblitzelle, Robert B. Wilby, John Balaban, Sam Pinanski, John J. Friedl and William K. Jenkins.

25-Cent GPE Dividend

Directors of General Precision Equipment Corp., here yesterday declared a dividend of 25 cents per share on capital stock, payable Dec. 15 to stockholders of record Dec. 6.

Mixed Needs in Capital for Postwar Period

(*Continued from page 1*)

himself to a planned post-war proposal of needs. Galanty mentioned that a serious need is expanded quarters. Walker and Dunlop, local realtors, have blueprints under way for modernizing the quarters of all film companies in the Film Building, among them Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, National Screen, United Artists and Monogram.

"In addition to expanding quarters," added Galanty, "we have under consideration additional equipment, especially routine office items such as desks, adding machines, typewriters and new lighting fixtures. Another important part of post-war plans calls for vitally needed extra help."

Jake Flax, franchise holder for Republic, insists that while he has no definite plans for post-war planning, one postwar item he intends to follow is the re-hiring of those who left for military service.

The general consensus among other exchange operators is that emphasis on post-war planning will be to replenish staffs, depleted because of the war, but that other factors of equipment, etc., must be referred to home offices.

Freon First

Speaking typically for Washington theaters, Loew's Carter Barron asserted that post-war plans would include the purchase, first, of freon, then of new lamps and late projection equipment.

Next to freon, the major need of Kogod-Burka Theaters is new houses, according to Frank Boucher, general manager for the circuit. With one theater already under construction, and another planned, K-B has definite plans for increasing its scope in the Washington area.

"We are planning what I would call complete business areas, providing shops, parking lots, cocktail lounges, a theater, perhaps a bowling alley and other community needs," Boucher disclosed, adding: "We still are not certain what types of equipment we will want, because technical advances make it almost impossible to tell at this moment. However, we do know that our theaters will have provision for television programs, and will undoubtedly use the latest in cathode lighting systems. For post-war needs we have set aside a reserve fund to cover such requirements."

Legion Classifies Four New Pictures

The National Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: Class A-2, "Army Wives," Monogram, and "The Missing Juror," Columbia; Class B, "Faces in the Fog," Republic, and "Together Again," Columbia.

NBC to Fete Burns

National Broadcasting will give a press reception for Bob Burns at the Hotel Ritz-Carlton tomorrow evening, following a rebroadcast of the regular Bob Burns air show.

Divorcement Seen Taking Many Years

(Continued from page 1)

necessary to develop a practical plan for disposal of the theatres, and that plan, Department officials emphasize, must conserve the investments of the present owners, yet sterilize their control.

It was freely admitted that difficulties might attend the quick disposition of the houses, as has been the case in the efforts of the Schine Circuit to sell theatres it was required to release under a Court order. If the houses cannot be moved into new ownership quickly, it is possible they might be placed under trustees.

Department officials said there will be a lot of difficult details to work out if the final Court decision requires divorcement, and it may be a matter of years before the houses are all in new hands.

Only 15 War Films At Turn of Year

(Continued from page 1)

"Betrayal from the East" and "China Sky."

Forthcoming films dealing with themes related to the war but not necessarily classifiable as out-and-out war films include: M-G-M's "This Man's Navy" and "Woman's Army," Warner's "Pillar to Post," and United Artists' "Tomorrow the World" and "I'll Be Seeing You."

Top war films either in the planning stage, in production or completed but not set for release include: Paramount's "Medal for Benny," the Paramount-Hal Wallis "Love Letters," United Artists-Lester Cowan "The Story of G-I Joe," and 20th Century-Fox's "Bell for Adano" and United Artists's "Blood on the Sun."

Sanders Remains as MP Associates Head

At a meeting of Motion Picture Associates held at the Astor Hotel here, yesterday, Morris Sanders, president, was renominated president unanimously. Election will take place in mid-December, at which time plans for a dinner will be discussed.

Other nominations were: Jack Ellis, vice-president; Matthew Cahan and Howard Levy, second vice-president; Saul Trauner, Morris Fraum, Charles Penser and Morris Kutinsky, treasurer, secretary, financial secretary and sergeant at arms, respectively.

Say Wodehouse Not Held

Both French and British officials have denied reports, attributed to British Broadcasting Corp., that P. G. Wodehouse was being put in a French concentration camp, press dispatches from Paris said yesterday. The British novelist, some of whose works have been filmed, is allegedly in a suburban clinic.

James C. O'Neill Dies

James C. O'Neill, 68, screen actor for nine years in the early days of the industry and a staff member of Actors Equity until 1939, died Monday at his home here. Services will be held in St. Malachy's church Friday, and burial will be in the Actors Fund plot at Kensico Cemetery. O'Neill was a trustee of the Fund.

10,354 Special Events Set for 6th Loan Drive

(Continued from page 1)

War Activities Committee for the Sixth War Loan Drive, has decided to give branch managers more latitude in connection with 'Projection Room Premieres.' Hereafter, as an incentive to selling extra premieres, each manager will make available any production for which there are prints available at the exchange at that time.

Trade Press Publishers Get 'Medal of Honor'

Motion picture trade paper publishers will be guests of the drive committee at a Sixth War Loan luncheon at the Monte Carlo here today, and each will receive the industry's 'Medal of Honor' for efforts on behalf of the campaign.

Among those attending will be Martin Quigley, *Quigley Publications;* Jack Alicoate, *Film Daily;* Jay Emanuel, *Jay Emanuel Publications;* Abel Green, representing *Variety;* Charles Lewis, *Showmen's Trade Review,* Ben Shlyen, *BoxOffice,* and Moe Wax, *Film Bulletin.*

Attending the luncheon, in addition to the publishers, will be Harry Brandt, national chairman for the drive; William F. Crockett, vice-chairman; Ned Depinet, chairman of the distributors division; Leon Bamberger, assistant to Depinet; S. H. Fabian, head of the theatre division; Max A. Cohen, in charge of special events; John Hertz, Jr., national publicity director; Max Youngstein, publicity co-ordinator; Herman Schleier, assistant to Brandt; Herb Berg and the three war heroes representing the Treasury Department: Lt. Col. Roswell R. Rosengren, Capt. Raymond W. Wild and Lieut. Lewis R. Largey.

A similar function will take place in Hollywood, with honors bestowed upon Pete Harrison, *Harrison's Reports;* Arthur Ungar, *Daily Variety* and William Wilkerson of the *Hollywood Reporter.* Ted Lloyd of the national committee, representing Brandt, will make the presentations in Hollywood at the same time as those in New York.

Tomorrow 'Journal' Day in Times Square

Harry Mandel, publicity chairman for the War Activities Committee, New York area, has set a series of newspaper-sponsored days for the film industry's Statue of Liberty in Times Square. The first of these is New York *Journal-American* Day, tomorrow, when many of that paper's writers and cartoonists will appear in addition to an 'in person' show arranged by James Sauter, executive director, United Theatrical War Activities Committee, and the entire Roxy Theatre stage show.

'Creek' to Net Bonds $1,200,000 in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 28.—"Frenchman's Creek" will realize $1,200,000 in war bonds for its premiere here, the Warner theatre circuit closing down its downtown Aldine on Thursday evening, Dec. 14, to permit the Philadelphia Chapter of Hadassah, women's Zionist organization, to sponsor the special screening.

Bert Sanford Reports $55,000 Buy for Altec

Altec Service has bought $55,000 worth of Treasury Notes in support of the industry's Sixth War Loan Drive, Bert Sanford, Altec Eastern division sales manager, yesterday informed Harry Brandt.

Para. Buys $3,000,000 Bonds For Sixth Drive

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—The Hollywood War Finance Committee disclosed today that the first film corporation here to purchase bonds in the Sixth War Loan Drive is Paramount, which has purchased $3,000,000 worth.

Fabian Executives At Rites for Liner

Funeral services for Irving L. Liner, 48, general manager of Fabian Theatres on Staten Island, were held yesterday at Riverside Chapel here. Liner died Sunday of a heart ailment.

Liner had started with Fox Film Corp., and then went to Adams-Paramount theatres in New Jersey, for 12 years, before joining Fabian, in 1938. He was a veteran of World War I. His widow and two brothers survive. Several members of the Fabian circuit in Albany came here for the funeral, including Sol Ullman, George Seed, Joe Shure, Milt Schlosberg and Joe Saperstein.

Hyman L. Levy Dies

DES MOINES, Nov. 28.—Hyman L. Levy, operator of the Strand, Oelwein, Ia., is dead of a heart attack. He is survived by two sisters: Mrs. A. H. Blank and Mrs. B. W. Prusinger, both of Des Moines.

Grace Moore's Father

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Nov. 28.—Richard L. Moore, department store executive and father of Grace Moore, screen and operatic star, died at his home here after a brief illness.

Para. to Show Block No. 3 on Dec. 14-15

Paramount will trade show its 1944-45 third block on Dec. 14 and 15 in all exchange centers.

"For Whom the Bell Tolls," being released for popular prices; "Practically Yours," and "Dangerous Passage" will be screened on Dec. 14; "Here Come the Waves" and "Double Exposure" will be shown on Dec. 15.

Marintette Rites Held

PALATKA, Fla., Nov. 28.—Funeral services were held this week for Joseph Marintette, for the past 15 year with Florida State Theatres here and in Sanford. Marintette, who died Friday, was once with Consolidated Film Exchange and Universal. Interment was in Sanford.

Kuhl's Son Killed

DES MOINES, Nov. 28.—Funeral services were held recently at Greenfield for 2nd Lt. Robert L. Kuhl, son of Lawrence A. Kuhl, owner of theatres at Corning and Greenfield. Lt. Kuhl was killed in an airplane crash near Abilene, Tex.

'Irish Eyes' Holds; $11,300 in Second

TORONTO, Nov. 28.—"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" repeated at Shea's Theatre for an expected $11,300, this being the only holdover of the week. "The Conspirators" is expected to bring $11,800 to the Imperial, while $11,200 is in sight at Loew's for "An American Romance."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 30:

"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,800).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $11,200).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,900. (Average: $4,400).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,800).

VE-Day to Increase Troop Show Needs

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—Germany's capitulation will increase the need for morale-building entertainment for our troops abroad, according to William Dover, back from two years supervising USO-Camp Shows overseas, who said: "General Eisenhower and members of his staff remember the low spirits of our soldiers who had to remain abroad for long periods following the armistice, and are awake to the fact that the morale problem will be much more serious following the collapse of Germany in this war."

Dover praised the Hollywood Victory Committee and the War Activities Committee for their part in supplying entertainers and films.

The talent executive will rejoin the Feldman-Blum agency as director of the writer and scenario departments.

Schenck Reports 19 More 'Dimes' Chiefs

(Continued from page 1)

John B. Carroll, Maine; Frank J. Damis, Walter Reade, New Jersey; A. M. Russell, Montana; Milas L. Hurley, New Mexico; L. C. Griffith, Oklahoma; Robert H. Poole, California; Harry C. Arthur, Jr., Missouri; John Rugar, Utah; Fred J. Schwartz, New York; Ted Schlanger, Pennsylvania; Melvin Morrison, New Hampshire, and A. H. Blank, Iowa.

22,825 'Free-Gift' Features Overseas

(Continued from page 1)

Up the Band" and "Meet Me in St. Louis"; Paramount's "Dark Mountain"; Warners' "To Have and Have Not"; RKO's "None but the Lonely Heart"; Universal's "Bowery to Broadway" and "Hi, Beautiful"; Republic's "Brazil" and PRC's "Swing Hostess."

Fire Destroys Webster

WEBSTER, Fla., Nov. 28.—The Webster Theatre, operated by H. F. Hughes, has been destroyed by fire.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 104 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1944 | TEN CENTS

New Theatres Badly Needed In Southeast

Wide Construction Waits For Postwar Release

ATLANTA, Nov. 29.—Heavy new theatre construction in the Southeast is the No. 1 contemplation of both large and small circuits immediately after peace, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learns in continuing its survey of the prime postwar needs of exhibitors of the country.

In addition, many circuits and independent operators hereabouts are tense to hear word of Governmental release

(*Continued on page 6*)

Schneider a Warner V-P and Director

Samuel Schneider has been elected a vice-president and director of Warner Brothers, it was disclosed yesterday by Harry M. Warner, president, following a meeting of the board of directors held here late Tuesday at the home office. Schneider's election fills the vacancy caused by the resignation of Joseph Hazen, last summer.

Samuel Schneider

Schneider has been with Warners since its incorporation in 1923. He began in the accounting department, advanc-

(*Continued on page 7*)

35 of 48 States Set for 'Dimes'

The organization of a network of state chairmen to lead the 1945 March of Dimes drive, under national drive chairman Nicholas M. Schenck, is breaking a record for speed, it was disclosed here yesterday by Ernest Emerling, promotional director of the drive. Within 48 hours after Schenck wired his appointments, acceptances covering 35 of the 48 states have been

(*Continued on page 6*)

No Increase Seen For Projectors; But No Closings

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Prolongation of the war in Europe, intimated in London today by Prime Minister Winston Churchill, is expected to have no adverse effect upon the production program for theatre booth equipment, Allen G. Smith, chief of the War Production Board theatre equipment division, said here today.

While it is doubtful that the program for the first quarter of next year, shortly to be determined, will provide for any increase in the output of projectors, no cut from present levels of production is anticipated, Smith indicated.

Gratified that he has been able to

(*Continued on page 6*)

Scaling Downward Raw Stock Claims

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—War Production Board officials this week are meeting with representatives of the Army, Navy, Office of War Information, Foreign Economic Administration and other claimants for raw stock, to discuss their requirements for the first quarter of next year. Determination of the allocations for the film industry and the various Government agencies is expected to be made at the end of next week.

While officials concerned have not

(*Continued on page 6*)

Monogram's Profit Sharing Approved

Monogram has obtained approval from the Treasury's Wage Stabilization Board and the War Labor Board for a 20 per cent profit-sharing plan for employees in the Washington exchange. Applications are also pending for approval for other exchanges wholly operated by Monogram.

WLB Passes Wage Boosts

Regional War Labor Boards have approved job classifications with minimum-maximum wage scales and 10 per cent retroactive wage increases for several hundred exchange workers in Cincinnati, New Orleans and Denver.

Approval in Cincinnati covers classifications, wage scales and increases for office workers and a 10 per cent increase for service workers while Denver and New Orleans approvals are for 10 per cent increases for film shippers, inspectors and poster clerks. Increases are retroactive to Dec., 1942.

Exchange operational heads of the film companies and IATSE representatives yesterday signed additional WLB applications for 10 per cent increases for service workers in New York, Buffalo and Albany exchanges.

Call Off CIAA Film Unit Transfer to Hemisphere

Motion picture activities of the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs will continue indefinitely under the present setup instead of being transferred tomorrow to Hemisphere Films, as expected, it was learned here yesterday. A CIAA spokesman told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that although several plans have been discussed to perpetuate portions of the film program of the CIAA, nothing definite has been set at this time.

One of the main stumbling blocks in any plan for transferring to Hemisphere, which was established 18 months ago to cooperate with the CIAA, it is understood, is the degree of Government status that can be given the organization. The CIAA is a

(*Continued on page 6*)

Chicago Will Honor Kirsch on Friday

Chicago, Nov. 29.—Members of Illinois' buying and booking circuit and local Film Row will honor Jack Kirsch, head of the circuit, at a dinner at the Blackstone Hotel Friday, with proceeds going to La Rabida Hospital, which is supported by the local Variety Club, of which Kirsch is the new chief barker. Arthur Davidson of the Calo Theatre, is chairman of the affair.

Kirsch is also president of Allied of Illinois.

Must Decide Divorcement, Berge States

But U. S. Willing to Compromise Elsewhere

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

The Department of Justice is willing to compromise on any phase of a new consent decree except that of theatre divorcement, Assistant U. S. Attorney General Wendell Berge, head of the anti-trust division, indicated in an interview here yesterday with MOTION PICTURE DAILY. Berge was in New York from Washington on matters pertaining to international cartels.

Since the consenting companies have indicated they, too, would be unwilling to compromise on divorcement, a court trial seems certain. The government will ask the Federal Dis-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Cites Trade Press For Unity in Sixth

With the presentation of the industry's 'Medal of Honor' to motion picture trade paper publishers at yesterday's luncheon at the Monte Carlo here, Harry Brandt, national chairman for the Sixth War Loan Drive, said: "The complete unity throughout the industry as it now exists could not be possible without the support of the industry's publishers."

Among publishers or representa-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Booking 'Ass'n' Is Rank's French Aim

LONDON, Nov. 29.—Following this week's announcement that distribution in France had been returned to private companies, French government circles have expressed concern over widely circulated reports that J. Arthur Rank might buy control of the French Gaumont circuit of some 20 theatres.

These rumors, spokesmen for Rank

(*Continued on page 6*)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Enter Arsene Lupin" appears on page 6.

Personal Mention

W. RAY JOHNSTON and MRS. JOHNSTON left here for the Coast yesterday.

•

LT. MARVIN GRIEVE, Army pilot and former Warner publicist, is visiting New York from Hill Field, Utah. He holds a Presidential Citation with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with 11 clusters, the French Croix de Guerre with palm, awarded by General De Gaulle, and three stars for European, African and Italian combat service.

•

FAYE EMERSON, screen actress, will be married at the weekend to COL. ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT, the President's son, now on leave in Hollywood after commanding the Allied Photographic Service in Italy and Sicily.

•

BURTON HOLMES was honored at a party last week given by the International Lyceum at the Bismarck, Chicago, which marked his 50th anniversary in the film travelogue field.

•

SAM SHAIN, assistant to SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, and MRS. SHAIN, are parents for a second time, a son having been born yesterday at the Lenox Hill hospital.

•

ARTHUR STERN, former manager of the Essaness Liberty Theatre, Chicago, and son of Emil Stern, circuit's treasurer, has been injured in Italy.

•

BILL BOLEY, account executive of Buchanan Advertising Agency, handling the Paramount account, is back at his desk after a siege of illness.

•

GEORGE BURROWS, vice-president and treasurer of Monogram, will remain another week in New York before departing for the Coast.

•

WILLIAM GUTHRIE, head of Warner's studio location department, left for the Coast yesterday from Philadelphia.

•

H. A. HUGHES, of the Webster Theatre, Webster, Fla., was seriously hurt in a fire in his theatre last week.

•

LOU KAUFMAN, Warner Theatres executive, is back in New York from a trip to Cleveland.

•

WALTER BRANSON, RKO's Western division manager, is in Chicago this week on business.

•

BERNARD GOODMAN, assistant supervisor of Warner Bros. exchanges, left for Atlanta yesterday.

•

SIDNEY HULL and MARY FIELDS, of J. ARTHUR RANK's producing companies, have returned to England.

•

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal advertising-publicity director, has left for the Coast, with stop-overs en route.

•

MORRIS ALIN, editor of Universal's "Progress," is the father of a daughter.

FCC Post-War Radio Report in Mid-Jan.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Federal Communications Commission, delayed by the bulk of testimony taken during its recent hearings, and, further, by changes in its own setup, is not expected to complete its report on post-war television and radio allocations until the middle of January.

The State Department will use the report as a basis for international discussions to be held next year, and had asked the FCC to submit its findings and recommendations by Dec. 1; it has been impossible to work the complicated material into a survey of possible post-war conditions and program needs within that time. The report will also cover television, and the needs of the motion picture industry for frequencies.

Para. Partners End 3-Day Meeting Here

Paramount theatre partners concluded three days of meetings here last night with a dinner at 21 Club, at which Barney Balaban, Paramount president, and Leonard Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatre operations, presided. Business meetings were held at the Hampshire House.

Most of the partners will remain in New York to attend the annual meeting of the War Activities Committee at the Warwick Hotel today. Several will also attend a meeting here tomorrow at which reorganization of the Will Rogers Memorial Fund will be discussed.

Among those at last night's dinner, in addition to Balaban and Goldenson, were: Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, R. J. O'Donnell, John Balaban, J. J. Friedl, Earl Hudson, W. K. Jenkins and a number of Paramount home office executives.

Mexicans Concerned By Hollywood Plans

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 29.—The National Cinematographic Industry Chamber, of which Jesus A. Grovas, producer, is president, has announced that it is preparing a program to protect the native industry from inroads of Hollywood companies which plan to produce here in Spanish and English.

The Chamber is also said to be concerned about reports that Hollywood interests plan to build studios at Monterrey.

AMPA Will Meet Today

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will meet here today at the Hickory House at a closed luncheon session for members and the trade press, to discuss its forthcoming dinner commemorating the industry's 50th anniversary.

Hope Receives Medal

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 29.—The Poor Richard Club here announces that Bob Hope will receive the club's 1944 gold medal for achievement at the annual dinner in January.

Gardner and Nedley In New MGM Posts

M-G-M has made two promotions in its field sales force, William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, has announced here. Sam Gardner, branch manager in Salt Lake City, has been promoted to head the Los Angeles office, succeeding the late Clayton V. Lynch. Carl Nedley, salesman in Omaha, has been promoted to manage the Salt Lake branch. Nedley left New York yesterday for Omaha to close his affairs there and will take over in Salt Lake City on Dec. 11, while Gardner will report to Los Angeles the same week.

Monog'm Franchisers On Coast for Meet

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 29.—Herman Rifkin, Monogram Boston franchise holder, arrived here today for the annual stockholders' meeting on Dec. 6. Arthur C. Bromberg of Atlanta; Lon T. Fidler, Denver; William Hulburt, Detroit; and C. W. Trampe, Milwaukee, will arrive at the weekend. At the meeting, to be presided over by W. Ray Johnston, president, who left New York yesterday, election of board members will take place.

Murray's Trust Suit Postponed to Jan. 3

CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—The conspiracy suit filed in Federal court here by Thomas Murray, former operator of the Thalia Theatre, against distributors and Balaban and Katz, has been postponed by Judge Holly to Jan. 3.

Murray claims he was forced to sell his theatre because of lack of suitable product, and alleges the defendants were responsible.

New Delay on First Alperson Production

Edward Alperson, independent producer who is to release through 20th Century-Fox, has arrived in New York for a short visit to seek additional story material to be used in his production plans.

Alperson said this week that he does not expect to start production on "Black Beauty," his first, before February or March due to what are described as "outdoor climatic conditions" in California.

Dickerman's Circuit Sold, He Retires

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 29. — Harry Dickerman, veteran exhibitor, has disposed of his five theatres in Minnesota and Wisconsin to Donald Guttman, and has announced his retirement, to make his home in California.

Theatres disposed of are the Alhambra and Northtown, Minneapolis; Roxy and Arcade, St. Paul; Grand, Durand, Wisc.

LaRoche to Give Plans

Chester J. LaRoche, vice-chairman of Blue Network, will discuss the web's future plans at a luncheon at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria here tomorrow for representatives of the trade press and daily newspapers.

WAC's Third Annual Meeting Here Today

Third annual meeting and luncheon of the War Activities Committee takes place today at the Hotel Warwick here. Members from the field of the WAC executive committee and its Theatre Division executive committee are in New York to hear a report on 1944, plans for 1945 and to listen to addresses by Basil O'Connor, Elmer Davis, Ted R. Gamble and others. George J. Schaefer, WAC chairman, will preside, with WAC executives Francis S. Harmon, S. H. Fabian, Herman Gluckman and Walter T. Brown participating.

Other guest speakers at the luncheon will include: Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig, Marine Corps; Col. Curtis Mitchell, chief of Army Pictorial Service, Bureau of Public Relations, substituting for Major Gen. A. D. Surles; Stewart Brown, Red Cross; Taylor Mills, head of the OWI motion picture bureau; Capt. Gene Markey, Bureau of Motion Pictures, office of the Secretary of the Navy; Major Orton Hicks, Army Overseas Motion Picture Service.

Warner Brothers Buy 'Life with Father'

Warners have bought the screen rights to "Life with Father," Oscar Serlin's stage production which has been running at the Empire Theatre here since Nov. 8, 1939, it was learned yesterday. Terms are said to include a down payment of $500,000 against a 50-50 division of the net film profits. The studio expects to make a picture of "Gone With the Wind" proportions and anticipates a gross of more than $20,000,000.

RKO Finances Play

RKO has paid $40,000 for a six-month option on Edward Chodorov's new play, "Common Ground," to cover cost of the stage production, which Edward Choate will present. Screen rights are not involved in the deal.

Mass. Clearance Is Cut to Seven Days

Henry M. Channing, arbitrator in the Boston tribunal, ruling on a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies by Canton Amusement Co., Inc., operator of the Strand, Canton, Mass., has declared that maximum clearance which may be granted to the Norwood and Guild, Norwood, over the Strand, shall be seven days, the American Arbitration Association reported yesterday.

The arbitrator also ruled that no clearance shall be granted to the State, Stoughton, over the Strand. Intervenors were G. A. Jiles Co., operator of the Norwood and Guild, and Stoughton Theatre Co., operator of the State.

PRC Gets 'Victory'

TORONTO, Nov. 29.—PRC has acquired Canadian rights to Scoop Productions' "One Inch From Victory." Quentin Reynolds narrated.

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ANDREWS SISTERS IN LLYWOOD CANTEEN

Jack Benny IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

JOE E. BROWN IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Eddie CANTOR IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

KITTY CARLISLE IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

ACK CARSON IN LLYWOOD CANTEEN

Dane Clark IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

JOAN CRAWFORD IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Helmut Dantine IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

BETTE DAVIS IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

E EMERSON IN LYWOOD CANTEEN

Victor Francen IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

JOHN GARFIELD IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Sydney Greenstreet IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Alan HALE IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

ul Henreid IN LYWOOD CANTEEN

ROBERT HUTTON IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

AN LESLIE IN LYWOOD CANTEEN

Peter Lorre IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

A LUPINO IN LYWOOD CANTEEN

IRENE MANNING IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

an McCracken IN LYWOOD CANTEEN

Dolores Moran IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

nnis MORGAN IN LYWOOD CANTEEN

Eleanor PARKER IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

CE REYNOLDS IN LYWOOD CANTEEN

ROY ROGERS & TRIGGER IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

S.Z. ("CUDDLES") SAKALL IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

ZACHARY SCOTT IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Alexis SMITH IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

bara STANWYCK IN LYWOOD CANTEEN

Joseph Szigeti IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Donald Woods IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Jane WYMAN IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

JIMMY DORSEY and Band IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

RMEN AVALLARO & ORCH. IN LYWOOD CANTEEN

GOLDEN GATE QUARTET IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Rosario & Antonio IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

SONS OF THE PIONEERS IN HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

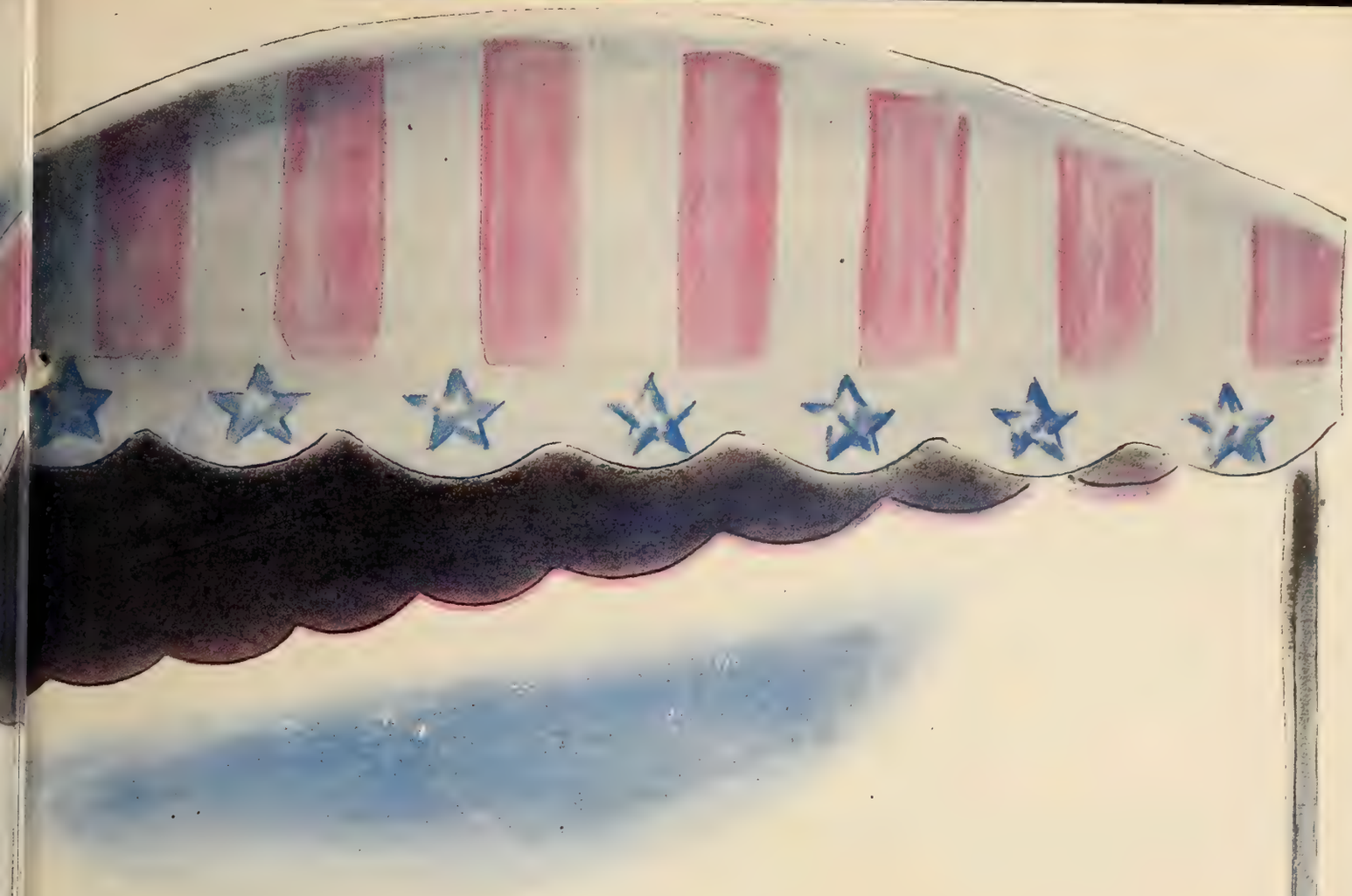
Original Screen Play by Delmer Dave
Directed by DELMER DAVES
Musical Numbers Created and Directed by LEROY PRINZ
Produced by
ALEX GOTTLIEB
JACK L. WARNER

. . . THIS IS A

"Since October 1942, over two million uniformed guests of the Hollywood Canteen for Service Men have discovered that motion picture people have very big and very generous hearts.

"Soon, many millions of other Americans will make the same happy discovery . . . when they see the Warner Bros. picture HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN.

"For in HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN, the warmth and generosity of our Industry shines through every scene, and lights up the picture's wealth of entertainment as mere Kleig-lights never could.



W-CASE FOR THIS INDUSTRY'S GREAT HEART

"I'm sure you'll be interested to know that a large share of Warner's profits from HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN will be turned over to the Canteen, to help us all carry on and enlarge our work of entertaining service men.

"And I'm glad that the happiness our Canteen has given to so many fighting men may now be shared by America's motion-picture public."

Bette Davis

President and Co-founder of the Hollywood Canteen for Service Men

Drop CIAA Deal With Hemisphere

(Continued from page 1)

Government agency, it is pointed out, whereas the activities of Hemisphere could only be quasi-official as presently contemplated.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, head of the CIAA, has stated that his agency's numerous functions would eventually be transferred to permanent Government agencies to continue the "Good-Neighbor policy." Hemisphere, though not a Government agency, has loomed as a possible successor to the CIAA film activities for some time.

It was recently reported that approval of the transfer of CIAA film activities to Hemisphere on Dec. 1, had been given by the Department of State and the Bureau of the Budget with the film division continuing operations in New York and Washington under Hemisphere auspices. Congress has allocated $2,000,000 for films to the CIAA for the year ending June 30, 1945, $1,000,000 of which was to be transferred to Hemisphere to continue operations between Dec. and June, 1945, and after that Hemisphere was to call upon private funds for the continuation of the film program.

Leshin Leaves Para.

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 29.—E. D. Leshin, Paramount producer, has obtained a release from his contract, under which he produced four pictures in the past two years. He will announce new plans after a vacation. Leshin was a member of Paramount's production unit for some years.

Review

"Enter Arsene Lupin"

(Universal)

Hollywood, Nov. 29

UNIVERSAL'S new find, Charles Korvin, has ample opportunity to display his charm in a mystery-drama of mounting interest. The young man should receive a warm welcome from feminine fans. In this picture he is teamed with Ella Raines, who wears clothes to advantage and is not called upon to do much acting. J. Carrol Naish contributes another of his noteworthy portraits as Ganimard, a French detective.

The original and ingenuous screenplay, by Bertram Milhauser, is based on a character created by Maurice LeBlanc, a suave thief, who specializes in art treasures, jewels and vintage wines. In pursuit of his profession he encounters Miss Raines, owner of a fabulous emerald whose possession puts her life in danger. The thief, overcome by her charms, not only restores the emerald, but saves her life on several occasions. Although the ending sees the lovers parted and the hero on his way to jail, the impression is conveyed that the next in the series will present him as a free man, ready for further adventures. Ford Beebe produced and directed.

Running time, 72 minutes. "G."* Release date, Nov. 24. THALIA BELL

*"G" denotes general classification.

35 of 48 States Are Set for 'Dimes'

(Continued from page 1)

received. Additional acceptances from state chairmen were received yesterday as follows:

W. F. Crockett, Virginia; E. J. Schulte, Arkansas; Arthur Lehman, Mississippi; A. M. Russell, Montana; Paul Schlossman, Michigan; M. C. Cooper, North Dakota; Fred Dolle, Kentucky; E. M. Faye, Rhode Island; M. C. Talley, Florida; Toney Sudekum, Tennessee; R. M. Kennedy, Alabama; Julius M. Gordon, Texas.

No Rise Seen for Projectors: Smith

(Continued from page 1)

make good on his promise, backed by top WPB officials, that no theatre would be permitted to close for lack of booth parts, Smith said there was nothing in the picture at this time indicating that the future needs of exhibitors, which are becoming heavier as time goes by, could not be met.

So far, no great advantage has been taken of the board's "spot authorization" plan under which manufacturers having manpower and machinery and able to secure materials from excess inventories can produce for civilian consumption if such operations do not interfere with their war orders. Only one application, for permission to produce 200 rectifiers, has been approved.

Booking 'Ass'n' Is Rank's French Aim

(Continued from page 1)

have indicated, are without foundation. E. T. Carr, representing Rank, left only today on a delayed visit to Paris, the most likely outcome of which is seen as a booking "association."

A high authority at the French embassy here stated today that his government was opposed to handing over control of French theatres to any 'outside' interests.

Scaling Downward Raw Stock Claims

(Continued from page 1)

made public the requests of the various claimants, it is understood that the total of all claims is considerably in excess of the anticipated supply, and the conferences now going on are aimed at scaling them down where such action is possible. Currently the film situation is 'holding its own,' it was said today by Lincoln V. Burrows, Photographic Section chief.

Mutual Board to Meet

Mutual network's board of directors, shareholders and executive committee will gather for their fourth meeting of the year at the Hotel Ambassador here Dec. 9.

New Theatres Badly Needed In Southeast

(Continued from page 1)

of equipment and chairs and materials and manpower that will permit of remodeling, which is badly needed in practically all sections of this territory. In fact, there are very few projection machines in the area that do not need considerable over-hauling. Typical of the widespread Southeastern plans for new theatres are the following:

H. B. Meiselman, Charlotte, operating the Strand, Wallingford; Strand, Lenoir City; Strand, Rockingham; Manor, Wilmington, and two theatres in Fayettesville, all in North Carolina, states that his postwar plans call for a new theatre in Charlotte, where he recently purchased the Roosevelt Hotel property, to construct a $250,000 theatre building.

H. F. Kincey of the Wilby-Kincey circuit, will also construct a theatre in Charlotte, to seat 2,250. It will be the fourth largest building at the intersection of the main part of the city.

To Spend Million

Frank E. Jones, Atlanta realtor, advises that he represents clientele in the industry who plan to spend from $1,000,000 to $1,500,000 for theatres in both North and South Carolina.

Lam Amusement Co., operating in Rome, Cedartown, La Grange, Hogansville and Newman, Georgia, has postwar plans to build additional theatres and to remodel throughout, with new equipment, seats and stage equipment installed.

Crescent Amusement Co., Nashville, also has post-war plans to build one or two large theatres in Nashville.

The Knoxville Planning Commission has granted permission to Jack Comer and W. E. Drumbar to construct a "Drive-In." Amusement Enterprises will build a theatre in a Ft. Payne, Ala., shopping center. Lucas and Jenkins report construction will begin shortly after Dec. 1 on a house in Columbus, Ga.; while Savannah Theatres has received bids for the postwar construction of a theatre in that city.

WPB Sees No Building Before End of War

There is no possibility that wartime controls over civilian construction can be rescinded prior to the ending of the European War, A. J. McComb, director of the new construction bureau of the War Production Board, told members of the Producers Council, at the second session of their semi-annual conference in the Roosevelt Hotel here.

Builders cannot expect much change so long as the manpower shortage in critical industries continues, McComb stated.

Yuletide Party Dec. 16

The Warner Club's annual Christmas Party for juvenile relatives of employees will be held at the Hollywood Theatre Saturday morning, Dec. 16, Martin F. Bennett, club president, has announced here.

21 WORDS THAT SPELL CHRISTMAS BOND SALES!

•

PUT THIS MESSAGE IN YOUR 6th WAR LOAN LOBBY

"The War Bonds You buy this Christmas Speed the Christmas when you may say— Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men"

•

Ross Federal Service, Inc.

Cleveland Improves, Led by 'Lonely'

CINCINNATI, Nov. 29.—Improved returns appear on practically all fronts. RKO's Albee will collect approximately $15,500 with "None but the Lonely Heart," while "Marriage Is a Private Affair" will yield around $9,000 at RKO's Grand. "The Princess and the Pirate" is high among the holdovers, with $7,000 indicated at RKO's Lyric.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 29-Dec. 2:

"None but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $13,500).
"Together Again" (Col.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Dead Men's Eyes" (Univ.)
"The Missing Juror" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $2,200. (Average: $2,400).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,500).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, following initial week at the Albee and a moveover at the Grand. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO-Goldwyn)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 4th week, following two weeks at the Palace and a moveover at the Lyric. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

'Parkington' Goes $10,000 Over Par

BALTIMORE, Nov. 29.—Major attractions, combined with favorable weather, gave boxoffice figures a strong boost here this week. Less important shows are about average. "Mrs. Parkington" is taking $25,000 in its first week at the Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 30:

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000).
"Together Again" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Georgie Kaye, Marion Colby, Stan Kramer, Six Marvelettes, Coleman Clark. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,500).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,500).

Vallee Back in Films

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 29.—Rudy Vallee's first screen appearance since his recent honorable discharge from the Coast Guard will be in the Paramount Pine-Thomas production of "People Are Funny," in which Vallee will co-star with Jack Haley. Art Linkletter, star of the radio show on which the film will be based, has also been signed for a feature role.

Earle Brown, Actor, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 29.—Earle Brown, 72, character actor of screen and stage, died here. He had been in the film business for 20 years, and formerly was with United Artists.

U. S. Will Not Compromise On Divorcement: Berge

(Continued from page 1)

trict court here next Tuesday to set a hearing date on its petition for an amended decree, including the divorcement of affiliated theatres within a three-year period.

Berge pointed out that even if negotiations were to be instituted by the companies with the Department of Justice for a new decree embodying all the issues involved in the New York anti-trust suit except the divestiture issue, the Department would nevertheless not delay in bringing the divestiture issue to trial immediately. If the court were to approve the institution of such a move, the distributors and the Department of Justice might possibly arrive at a revised consent decree, subject to court approval, on all the issues involved in the anti-trust action except divorcement, and trial on that issue still would be pressed, he said.

Berge revealed that representatives of the distributors were in Washington a few weeks ago for a conference with the Department, but that there was no discussion of the issues or of a possible compromise other than perhaps a query as to whether the Department would be willing to delay court action while further attempts for a compromise were made. He said that the Department is willing to meet with the distributors but will not delay its pending court action.

Berge said the Department expects the court to set a hearing on its decree petition for early in January. A definite procedure for trial of the divorcement and other issues of the anti-trust suit will probably have to be set by the Court since the action will involve the introduction of evidence and the testimony of witnesses, Berge indicated.

The Department has no particular preference for any method of selling films as long as the selling method is one entered into voluntarily by both parties in a free and competitive market, Berge pointed out. He expressed doubt that the distributors would be forced to sell one film at a time to avoid possible charges that the licensing of one film was made contingent upon the licensing of another, where more than one film at a time was sold.

Berge indicated that divorcement is so fundamental a part of the Department's views of the industry that little attention may be paid in court to the non-theatre owning companies, Universal, Columbia and United Artists, although they are named as defendants in the original anti-trust suit, and that sales and distribution practices in themselves are secondary Government concerns to affiliated theatre operation.

All Buffalo First Runs in Smash Week

BUFFALO, Nov. 29.—It looks like a smash week here, with all houses recording above-average. "And Now Tomorrow" and "Kismet," at the Buffalo and Great Lakes, respectively, will probably lead.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 2:

"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
"The National Barn Dance" (Para.)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 8 days. Gross: $23,800. (Average: $17,400).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 8 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $16,200).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 9 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $9,700).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,800. (Average: $12,200).
"Together Again" (Col.)
"Ever Since Venus" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,400).

Kraker Heads Legion

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 29.—Jack Kraker, manager of the local Ross Federal office, has been elected commander of American Legion Variety Post, No. 713, succeeding I. Epstein, manager of Atlantic Theatres. Other officers are Albert M. Cohen, senior vice-commander; Joseph Carlin, junior vice-commander; Max Levin, adjutant; Leo Berisin, treasurer; Eddie Gabriel, chaplain, and Mike Weiss and Eli Epstein, sergeants-at-arms.

Lanigon, Actor, Dies

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 29.—Joe Lanigon, for 25 years a vaudeville performer who played in theatres from Coast to Coast, died at his home here today.

Cites Trade Press For Unity in Sixth

(Continued from page 1)

tives present who received the award were: Martin Quigley, *Quigley Publications;* Jack Alicoate, *Film Daily;* Jay Emanuel, *Jay Emanuel Publications;* Abel Green, *Variety;* 'Chic' Lewis, *Showmen's Trade Review;* Ben Shlyen, *Boxoffice,* and Moe Wax, *Film Bulletin.* Others presented with the medal were: Ned E. Depinet, Leon Bamberger, W. F. Crockett, Roy Disney, John Hertz, Jr., Si Seadler, Max A. Cohen, Herman Schleier, Max Youngstein, Herb Berg, Lt. Col. Roswell R. Rosengren and Lt. Lewis R. Largey, all working on the Sixth .

Bond Recording Caravan Tours Washington

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—The 'Bond Recording Caravan,' an activity of the industry's Sixth War Loan Drive, is now in the second half of its tour, visiting theatres in the District of Columbia. It is equipped with a complete voice recording outfit, and each bond purchaser may make a record which can be sent to a person in the Armed Forces.

When the caravan appears at a theatre, a group of bond writers is on hand to fill orders. Managers are also arranging individual festivities in front of each theatre.

Homeier on Tour

'Skippy' Homeier, 12-year-old actor in Lester Cowan's "Tomorrow—the World," has begun a trip to 20 cities in conjunction with special previews of the film, contributing his services to the Sixth War Loan Drive.

L. A. Builds 'Tomorrow' To $47,500

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 29.—Exploitation stressing Alan Ladd lifted the take at the two Paramount theatres to $47,500, against a $31,400 average, and "Dough Girls" sold solidly for $54,650 in the Warner threesome, which averages $51,200. Weather continued favorable.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 29:

"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
"When Strangers Marry" (Mono.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,700. (Average: $14,900).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $15,000).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
FOX-WILSHIRE—(2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $10,500).
"Strange Affair" (Col.)
"Underground Guerrillas" (Col.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $5,700).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,500).
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
"When Strangers Marry" (Mono.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $29,300).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,300).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,900).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $29,500. (Average: $19,500).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,500).
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
"When Strangers Marry" (Mono.)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $10,500).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,485. (Average: $16,700).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,551. (Average: $18,700).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $16,614. (Average: $15,800).

Schneider a Warner V.-P. and Director

(Continued from page 1)

ing through various executive posts to the position of assistant to Harry Warner.

In this capacity, which he has filled for several years, Schneider has handled financial matters, corporate activities in general and served in a liaison capacity between Warner and the distribution, production and theatre departments of the company.

Markbreit Leaves Times

CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—Hank Markbreit, amusement advertising manager for the Chicago *Times,* has resigned to become vice-president of Poppers Supply Co., which services theatres with confections. Leonard Soll, formerly Markbreit's assistant at the *Times,* succeeds him as amusement manager.

Just About Everything

"CAN'T HELP SINGING" has just about every element that a memorable, entertaining picture must have. No comment need be made about Deanna Durbin in Technicolor for the first time; no comment need be made about the wonderful Jerome Kern music and the delightful E.Y. Harburg lyrics; no comment need be made about the remarkably fine cast brought together in the picture.

It is only important to say at this point that "CAN'T HELP SINGING" is one of those unique productions which combines all the fascinating elements that insure an entertainment masterpiece.

Deanna DURBIN

CAN'T HELP SINGING

IN TECHNICOLOR

with ROBERT PAIGE

AKIM TAMIROFF

DAVID BRUCE LEONID KINSKEY RAY COLLINS JUNE VINCENT ANDREW TOMBES THOMAS GOMEZ

Directed by FRANK RYAN *Produced by* FELIX JACKSON *Assoc. Producer* FRANK SHAW *Music by* JEROME KERN *Lyrics by* E. Y. HARBURG

Screen Play by LEWIS R. FOSTER and FRANK RYAN • Story by John Klorer and Leo Townsend
Based on "Girl of the Overland Trail" by Samuel J. and Curtis B. Warshawsky • A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 105 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Rank Centers Control of All Production

To Spend $20,000,000 in The Next Twelve Months

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Nov. 30.—On Dec. 6, J. Arthur Rank proposes to announce the formation of another company, to be known as Production Administration, Ltd., of which, like all the other companies he has promoted, he will be chairman. Function of the new concern will be to control not only all the promotional and propaganda services of his widely spread production activities, but also their finance and contractual obligations.

J. Arthur Rank

Rank has committed himself to the

(*Continued on page* 3)

Legion Replies to Report Distortion

The office of the National Legion of Decency, through the executive secretary, the Very Rev. John J. McClafferty, expressed, yesterday, concern over impressions which had been caused by headlines appearing in certain newspapers relative to the report of the Legion of Decency to the Bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures.

Monsignor McClafferty said that

(*Continued on page* 3)

Lasky, MacEwen In New Company

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 30.—Jesse L. Lasky and Walter MacEwen will leave here today on the Superchief enroute to New York for conferences with three distributors regarding the release of an unannounced number of films which a newly-formed company, Jesse L. Lasky Productions, will make. Lasky will produce independent-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Zoning Rules Become Law

The City Planning Commission's proposed amendments to New York's zoning ordinances, having been bypassed by the Board of Estimate here yesterday, which failed to vote and filed them instead, will automatically become law tomorrow. The amendments, which film industry witnesses have described as limiting the size of all future theatre and other buildings here, have been highly controversial and have produced a stream of opposition testimony by witnesses at public hearings.

Robert Dowling of the New York City Citizens Zoning Committee, testifying last week, declared that he knew of several proposed theatres, construction of which could not proceed on the basis of the new zoning revisions. He claimed that the zoning amendments, the goal of which is said to provide more air and light in areas of future buildings, would deprive buildings of 31 per cent of their ground space, thus making it impossible to erect new theatres on sites

(*Continued on page* 8)

Chaplin Can Sue Vanguard in N.Y.

ALBANY, Nov. 30.—The Court of Appeals held here today, in a 5-2 decision, that Charles Chaplin could sue Vanguard Films, Inc., in New York State for an accounting of $1,000,000 of alleged profits from film transactions. Louis Frohlich of Schwartz and Frohlich, New York law firm, represented Chaplin.

Also by a 5-2 vote, the court at the same time reversed a lower court rul-

(*Continued on page* 3)

W. B. Sends MPPDA Resignation Letter

A letter giving notice of Warner Bros. intention to resign from M. P. Producers and Distributors of America was sent to the association here yesterday. The letter is reported to have said that the company will continue its membership in the Association of M. P. Producers, Hollywood.

Schaefer, Harmon And Gluckman Are Reelected by WAC

George J. Schaefer was reelected chairman of the War Activities Committee at the annual meeting at the Hotel Warwick here yesterday. Francis Harmon was reelected vice-chairman, and Herman Gluckman, treasurer, all to serve until Dec. 31, 1945.

George J. Schaefer

The nomination of Schaefer, Harmon and Gluckman, by a committee composed of Barney Balaban, Herman Robbins and Harry Brandt, was unanimous.

S. H. Fabian was reelected chairman of the WAC theatres' division at a meeting held at WAC headquarters

(*Continued on page* 8)

Seek U.S. Films to Follow Australian Troops Afield

A plea for additional American films for Australian soldiers, with the hope, however, that distribution will be left in the hands of the Australian industry, was made at the Harvard Club here yesterday by Senator Richard V. Keane, Australian Minister of Trade and Customs, speaking at a luncheon in his honor given by the international department of the MPPDA.

Commenting on the fact that in New Guinea many friendships have

(*Continued on page* 8)

Trust Suit Expenses Are Tax-Deductible

Washington, Nov. 30.—Companies involved in anti-trust suits can charge costs of defending themselves as ordinary and necessary business expenses, in making federal income tax returns, the Internal Revenue Bureau holds.

Services Cite Films, Ask Continued Aid

Annual WAC Meet Hears Tributes for War Work

Officers of the Army, Navy, Marines, Office of War Information, Red Cross and the Treasury paid tribute to the industry's war efforts during 1944 and called upon the industry to sustain and accelerate this effort during 1945 "since the war is far from won," at the annual meeting of the War Activities Committee at the Hotel Warwick here yesterday.

Stressing that the motion picture is the most effective form of propaganda in stimulating the war effort, the representatives of the various services —including Elmer Davis, director of the OWI; Capt. Eugene Markey of the motion picture branch of the Office of the Secretary of the Navy; Col. Curtis D. Mitchell of the Army Bureau of Public Relations; and Brigadier General George L. Denig of the Marines—all cited the need to "rekindle public support in the war program through films."

Davis paid tribute to the industry

(*Continued on page* 8)

20th-Fox's 39-Week Net $9,487,929

Consolidated net profit, after all charges, of $9,487,929 for the 39 weeks ended Sept. 23, 1944, was reported here yesterday by 20th Century-Fox for the company and subsidiaries, including National Theatres and the Roxy Theatre. This amounted to $4.67 a share, after deducting dividends on prior preferred and con-

(*Continued on page* 8)

State Dep't Moves May Benefit Films

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Probable reorganization of both the State and Commerce Departments, widely reported here, would affect motion pictures and particularly their distribution in postwar foreign markets.

A reorganization of the State Department by Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., newly appointed Secretary, would be certain to increase the Department's

(*Continued on page* 8)

Johnston, Broidy, Carr, Ritchey in Mono. Stock Deals

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 30.—Officers and directors of Monogram Pictures Corp. were active traders in the stock of their company in August, September and October, it is disclosed by the Securities and Exchange Commission in its monthly summary.

In August, the SEC report showed, Alton A. Brody, director, sold 1,000 shares of common, leaving him with 3,000 shares, and in September Howard W. Stubbins, director, sold 917 shares held through Monogram Pictures NW, leaving him with 500 shares; he also bought 600 and sold 1,294 shares through Monogram Pictures California, leaving him with 8,223 shares in that holding.

The October reports showed that Steve Broidy bought 1,700 shares and sold 500 shares, increasing his holdings to 6,800 shares; Trem Carr sold 3,000 shares, reducing his holdings to 2,167 shares; Arthur Bromberg, Atlanta, bought 2,600 shares, leaving him with 30,639 shares. William B. Hurlbut, director, bought 700 shares through Monogram Pictures, Inc., giving him a total of 1,400 shares; W. Ray Johnston bought 3,667 and sold 1,600 shares, leaving him with 19,791 shares; he also bought 900 and sold 300 shares through Monogram Pictures, Inc., leaving it with 600 shares.

Other Deals

Herman Rifkin, Boston, bought 2,200 shares through Monogram Pictures, Inc., for a total of 17,625 shares; Norton V. Ritchey bought 100 shares to give him a total of 4,567 shares; Howard W. Stubbins sold 700 shares held through Monogram Pictures California, leaving it with 7,523 shares; he also sold 500 shares held through Monogram Pictures NW, ending its holdings; Charles W. Trampe, Milwaukee, bought 1,000 shares through Monogram Midwest Film Co., giving him a total of 2,300 shares.

Only three other film companies reported for October, the most extensive transactions being in a series of sales totaling 4,100 shares of Warner Brothers common by Albert Warner, which left him with 227,450 shares.

A report on Radio Keith Orpheum showed the sale of 850 shares of common by Frederick L. Ehrman, director, leaving him with 1,000 shares, and the sale of 800 shares of 20th Century-Fox common was reported by Robert Lehman, director, leaving him with 1,500 shares. A belated report on Columbia Pictures showed the sale in September by A. Montague of 2,000 common stock warrants, leaving him with 3,880.

To Show Fund Trailer

More than 500 theatres in this area are expected to show "A Right Christmas," trailer produced by RKO for the National War Fund campaign. The short, which features Vera Zorina, was produced at the Pathe Studios here. The War Activities Committee will handle distribution.

Personal Mention

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, president of Loew's, will leave for the Coast today to see new M-G-M product and confer with LOUIS B. MAYER.

•

DONALD S. MACLEOD, M-G-M office manager in Indianapolis; A. J. MAYER, Pittsburgh office manager, and EDWARD SUSSE, Albany office manager, will leave today for their respective territories after a week in New York.

•

CARL NEDLEY, M-G-M branch manager in Salt Lake City, will leave today for Omaha from New York. He will wind up his affairs in Omaha and report to Salt Lake City.

•

WILLIAM ZOELLNER, M-G-M Atlanta branch manager, and LOUIS C. INGRAM, Memphis manager, will arrive in New York Monday for a week's visit.

•

EDWARD DIETZ, Loew's vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity, will leave for the Coast next week.

•

CARL FLOYD and LUKIE STEIN, of Stein and Floyd Circuit, have returned to Florida after a business trip to Washington.

•

FRANK MELFORD, producer, left for the Coast yesterday.

•

HUNT STROMBERG arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

GORDON LIGHTSTONE, general manager of Paramount Film Service of Canada, and MRS. LIGHTSTONE, are in New York.

•

ELINOR J. REPASS, daughter of CHARLES REPASS, manager of the Crown, Hartford, Conn., was married to Merchant Marine JAMES GODART yesterday.

•

G. RALPH BRANTON, general manager of Tri-States Theatre Corp., will return to Des Moines Sunday after a week in Chicago and New York.

•

THEODORE R. BLACK, counsel for Republic, and MRS. BLACK, are the parents of a son, STEPHEN F., born at Woman's Hospital here.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, assistant exploitation manager of 20th Century-Fox, left New York last night for Dayton.

•

STANLEY J. MAYER, 20th-Fox branch manager in Des Moines, will leave there today for New York.

•

DICK CONNERS, former MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondent in Albany, dropped by yesterday.

•

JOE PASTERNACK, M-G-M producer, is in Philadelphia.

•

CAREY WILSON, M-G-M producer, will leave here for the Coast on Monday.

Loew, Lewin to Form Producing Company

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 30.—David L. Loew and Albert Lewin today announced their intention to form a new producing organization following the latter's completion of his M-G-M contract. No release for their product has yet been set. They were partners in 1939, producing "So Ends Our Night."

Lewin will leave for New York tomorrow on the Superchief.

Schreiber from WAC To Condon Monday

Ed Schreiber, for the past two years national director of publicity for the War Activities Committee, will leave Dec. 4 to join Richard Condon, Inc., public relations agency, as vice-president in charge of motion pictures.

Condon handles accounts of Columbia, Paramount, United Artists, RKO-Pathe, Russian Government films, "50th Anniversary of the Motion Picture Industry," and others.

Bombay Film Man Here

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 30.—H. Chaudhury, representative of Bombay Talkies, India producing company, is en route to New York following a week's stay here where he conferred with executives of Technicolor, Magnacolor and Cinecolor regarding the introduction of color to India.

Lesser-Todd Deal Off; May Produce On Own

The proposed deal between Sol Lesser andd Michael Todd whereby Lesser would produce some of Todd's plays for the screen, has been called off. Todd, however, is continuing his negotiations with United Artists officials, seeking a release on three planned productions, which he will produce himself.

Todd will start production on the Coast in mid-February, if he can secure release.

Halper, Goodman to Expedite RWLB Plea

David Halper, associate of Judge Mathew M. Levy, IATSE counsel, left here yesterday for Atlanta where he will be joined by Bernard Goodman, Warner Bros. assistant supervisor of exchanges, in an effort to expedite Regional War Labor Board approval of wage increases and job classifications for both exchange office workers and service workers in Atlanta, Charlotte and Memphis exchanges.

PRC 5th Anniversary Will Begin March 1

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 30.—PRC will observe its fifth anniversary for five weeks beginning March 1, it was announced here today by Leon Fromkess, president. The five-week observance will be preceded by a heavy advertising campaign.

'Tub Thumpers of America' Started

BOSTON, Nov. 30.—The Tub Thumpers of America, an organization of press agents and newspapermen and women, has been formed in Boston, and is expected to become a national institution with chapters in large cities. Purpose of the organization is to promote the status of press agentry and public relations work as a profession, and to keep it on a high plane; also, it will emulate the Gridiron and Cheese Clubs in their works, and "render public service to civic, state and national institutions."

First officers elected are: Harry Browning, chief tub thumper; Al Fowler, chief bill poster; Marjorie Spriggs, chief swindler; James King, Ben Bartzoff, Arnold Van Leer, the blackball trio; Joe Di Pesa, honorary membership committee; Joe Longo and Abe Bernstein, special awards committee. There are 21 charter members, and immediate plans are being laid to extend to other cities. Charters will be granted where 25 members or more apply for a chapter.

AMPA Will Meet on Alternate Thursdays

The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers met here yesterday at the Hickory House, where members heard a welcoming address by president Martin Starr, and agreed to hold meetings on alternate Thursdays instead of sporadically as it has been this season.

The *AMPA Bulletin* will be revived, with Ed McNamee of National Screen as editor. Also discussed was whether AMPA should confine the theme of a contmplated dinner to the 50th anniversary of films.

Twenty-six Ampaites are now in the Armed Forces and it was agreed to carry them free of dues until they are out of service. Present membership has 57 paid through next May, with $269 balance in the bank. A Christmas party will be held during late December. Next meeting will be Dec. 14.

Dennis Africa-Bound On 8-Month Trip

Armand Dennis, producer, now in Florida, is completing arrangements for his next expedition which will take him to the Belgian Congo and French Equatorial Africa for about eight months. Dennis plans to leave hortly after Jan. 1.

Natives and animals filmed on his last trip resulted in "Dark Rapture," which 20th Century-Fox is currently distributing.

Show 'Belle' Dec. 12

National trade showings of International's "Belle of the Yukon," to be released through RKO, will be held Dec. 12. No new screenings were set for New York and Los Angeles where the film has already been shown.

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Burnside Liaison on Coast for Rank

First move in J. Arthur Rank's announced plans to initiate an interchange of talent between Hollywood and London is the appointment of William H. Burnside as his production liaison between Hollywood and London, Arthur W. Kelly, president of Eagle-Lion Films of the U. S., announced here yesterday.

Burnside, in an interview at Eagle-Lion's New York headquarters, added that his immediate job will be to sign up stars, writers, directors and technicians for all of Rank's production units. He revealed that Rank has not yet made any production deals in Hollywood but that such arrangements will be forthcoming in the future. He also disclosed that he will buy equipment for all the Rank studios.

Prior to his joining Rank, Burnside was Hollywood liaison officer of the British Ministry of Information. He will open headquarters in Beverly Hills and will leave for Hollywood tomorrow. Sometime in January or February he will journey to England and may return to the U. S. with Rank, who plans to visit America this Winter.

J. Arthur Rank Centers Control of Production

(*Continued from page* 1)

expenditure on production of not less than $20,000,000 in the next 12 months.

Managing director and, as such, dictator of all the Rank advertising, production budgeting, contracts for the hire of actors, authors, studio-help, and so forth, will be F. L. Gilbert, a civil servant who has held senior office in the Establishments Division of the Treasury.

On the board of the new concern will sit Barrington Gain—clearly destined to be the financial controller of all Rank's enterprises—and representatives of the three major Rank production outfits: Two Cities, Gainsborough, Independent Producers.

The master plan, as Rank will reveal at his Dec. 6 meeting, calls for a complete revolution right down to the studio-base of operations. Allocation of studio stages will be as follows: Gainsborough's plant at Shepherds Bush will be handed over to G. B.-Instructional and will be operated by Mary Field, in the production of her films for Rank's Boys and Girls (Films) Clubs, in the making of instructional and propaganda films and such like endeavors.

The shortly to be de-requisitioned Pinewood Studios will be shared between Gainsborough and Independent Producers. Del Giudice's Two Cities' teams will function at Denham, where, however, there are prior contractual obligations to Sir Alexander Korda and to RKO Radio. It is the intention that some stages at Denham will be available to producers not within the Rank orbit.

Spencer M. Reis, managing director of D. and P. Studios, Ltd., will be general studio controller; Hector Coward will be in immediate charge at Pinewood; A. W. Watkins, at present chief cound engineer, in charge at Denham.

Reserve Plants

Gainsborough's second plant at Islington and — probably — the even smaller Riverside Studios, will be held in reserve for minor Rank ventures, or for any emergency arising when a production does not maintain its working schedule.

Rank's producers will be encouraged, more even than now, to work out novel ideas, for Rank feels that freed of financial responsibilities they will work with greater zest. Once a production notion has been approved and budgeted, and the necessary floor space allocated, the producer will have nothing more to do with finances or with the publicizing of his endeavor. He will go to Gilbert, suggest that he retain a certain writer or film editor, or star. If those individuals are available, Gilbert will negotiate their contracts.

Mexican Owners to Arbitrate Problems

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 30.—Third annual convention of the National Association of Motion Picture Impresarios, whose membership includes most of the owners of Mexico's 1,036 theatres, adopted a resolution providing for the establishment of a committee to arbitrate all problems confronting exhibitors.

Officers elected to serve for 1944-45 include: Antonio Osio, president; Manuel Espinosa Iglesias, vice-president; Manuel Angel Fernandez, treasurer; Francisco Somonano, secretary. Emilio Azcarraga, who resigned as president, was elected conselor.

Bennett, Wildberg in Deal

Constance Bennett, producer-star, and John Wildberg, lawyer and play producer, will jointly produce a stage play in the Spring of 1945, according to Jules Alberti, Miss Bennett's manager. Miss Bennett, now producing "Paris Underground," will be starred in the play.

Walter Brandt Dies

CLEVELAND, Nov. 30.—Walter J. Brandt, former Warner city salesman, died yesterday following a heart attack suffered while he was attending a show at Keith's East 105th St. Theatre. Brandt retired a few years ago because of poor health. He is survived by his son, Capt. John Warner Brandt.

Legion Replies to Report Distortion

(*Continued from page* 1)

the headline which appeared in one paper, "Movie Morals Worse, Say Catholic Bishops," was not a correct reporting or interpretation of the fact of the presentation of the report of the Legion of Decency to the Bishops' Committee. He continued, such a headline seems to reflect an extreme and exaggerated interpretation of the statistics, and the tendencies indicated by the statistics, in the report of the Legion of Decency submitted to the Bishops' Committee.

The Bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures did not make the statement which forms part of the headline. The Bishops' Committee made no statement.

Catholic weekly newspapers in reporting the fact of the presentation of the report of the Legion of Decency to the Bishop's Committee did not carry such headlines.

The *Catholic News*, of Nov. 25, carried the headline: "Bishops' Committee Asks Legion of Decency Pledge's Renewal." The *San Francisco Monitor* of Nov. 25 carried the headline: "429 Films Reviewed in Past Year by Legion of Decency." The *Catholic Herald Citizen*, of Milwaukee, dated Nov. 25, carried the headline: "Legion Lists Year's Films."

Report Nov. 15

The report of the Legion of Decency was made to the Bishops' Committee on Nov. 15. The story of the submission of the report was given the same day to the press representative of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. The story was not given to the NCWC press representative in time to reach the Catholic weeklies of the Nov. 18 date. The NCWC news service sent out the story on Nov. 17 for release by the Catholic newspapers of the week of Nov. 20. Most Catholic weekly newspapers bear end-of-the-week publication dates. The story appeared in Catholic weeklies under dates of Nov. 24 and 25.

The release to the secular press which was made by the bureau of information of the NCWC was synchronized to the publication dates Nov. 24 and 25 of the Catholic weeklies.

Chaplin Can Sue Vanguard in N. Y.

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing which would have permitted Chaplin to bring a similar accounting against David O. Selznick Productions, Inc.

Chaplin has held that the $1,000,000 involved in the proceedings was made by Selznick Productions and Selznick from leasing actors and technicians and rights to three films, "Keys of the Kingdom," "Claudia" and "Jane Eyre," to 20th Century-Fox.

The decision permits Chaplin's attorneys to examine Selznick before trial of the action.

Bly, Shea Partner, Dies

CLEVELAND, Nov. 30.—D. B. Bly, veteran Conneaut, O., exhibitor, and partner in the Shea circuit, died here Tuesday.

NEW YORK THEATRES

HELDOVER 3rd WEEK
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647 REPUBLIC THEATER B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
Irene DUNNE + Charles BOYER
'TOGETHER AGAIN'
with Charles Coburn
A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

NOW PLAYING AT MUSIC HALL
Extra! EXCLUSIVE AND TRUE!
THE NEW MARCH OF TIME
INSIDE CHINA TODAY

CARMEN MIRANDA — MICHAEL O'SHEA
VIVIAN BLAINE
"SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
JIMMY SAVO — MILDRED BAILEY
—Plus On Stage—
EXTRA! PEARL PRIMUS
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
11TH WEEK—RIVOLI
BROADWAY AND 49TH STREET ★

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
CARY GRANT
IN
"None But the Lonely Heart"
WITH
MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE
BARRY FITZGERALD

Alan Ladd ★ In Person
Loretta Young
in PARAMOUNT'S
"AND NOW TOMORROW"
GLEN GRAY and the Casa Loma Orchestra
ANDY RUSSELL
JERI SULLAVAN
SON & SONNY
WALLY BROWN and ALAN CARNEY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

STATE
ON SCREEN
SPENCER TRACY
'THE SEVENTH CROSS'
IN PERSON
LANI McINTIRE
and ORCH.
ALLAN & HENRY CROSS & DUNN

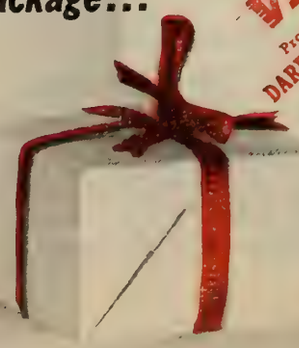
★★ VICTORIA ★★
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
WILSON
IN TECHNICOLOR
20th Century-Fox PICTURE

NAIL

YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS EARLY

from the Biggest Figure in the Industry . . . .

...and open on Christmas that big, wonderful box-office package...



MOSS HART'S
"WINGED VICTORY"
Produced by DARRYL F. ZANUCK
Directed by GEORGE CUKOR

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

WORLD
PREMIERE
SPENCER TRACY
VAN JOHNSON
30 SECONDS OVER
BERT WALKER
LLYS THAXTER
TOKYO"
CIGARS
SIXTH

HE'S SINGING IN THE RAIN!

★

Look at the crowds standing in line to see "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo." When you've got BIG Attractions (an M-G-M habit!) they come in any weather. 3rd Week and Terrific at N. Y. Capitol!

★

THERE'S ALWAYS CHEERFUL NEWS FROM M-G-M!

"Meet Me In St. Louis" has set all-time records in its St. Louis World Premiere and it's repeating the amazing performance at the Astor, N. Y.

★

HAPPY M-G-M HOLIDAYS!

Again, as in several years past, Radio City Music Hall invites M-G-M to entertain its holiday crowds. This year it's a Happy New Year World Premiere of "NATIONAL VELVET" starting Dec. 15th. Christmas will be celebrated nation-wide with "Mrs. Parkington," "Kismet," "Lost In A Harem." And it's a BIG New Year's party in many theatres throughout the land with "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

Bonds Buy Bombs!
Sock 'em with the 6th!

U. S. Pictures for Australian Troops

(Continued from page 1)

been formed by Americans and Australians at jungle picture shows, Senator Keane said: "I hope that as our army goes further afield, you will make it possible for film units to go with them. If it happens that no American troops are fighting in the immediate vicinity, we hope this will not cause lessening of the films supplied."

In Keane's party at the luncheon were: David Baily, William Dunk, Louis McGregor, F. McNeill Ackland, chairman and executive secretary, MPPDA of Australia, and Albert M. Doyle, American Consul General, Amsterdam, Holland.

Representing the foreign departments of producer-distributor companies and the international department of the MPPDA were: Fayette W. Allport, John J. Glynn, R. K. Hawkinson, Col. Frederick L. Herron, John W. Hicks, Joseph S. Hummel, C. A. Kirby, William Levy, Vladimir Lissim, Irving Maas, Karl G. Macdonald, Ben Miggins, Carl E. Milliken, T. P. Mulrooney, Jack Segal, J. H. Seidelman, Harold L. Smith, M. A. Spring and George Weltner.

State Dep't Moves May Benefit Films

(Continued from page 1)

jurisdiction in the foreign economic field. It is believed likely that some or all of the units of the Foreign Economic Administration may be absorbed by the State Department. Development of a new world-wide network of American trade representatives, heretofore shared by the Commerce Department with the FEA, might be undertaken by the State Department, observers believe. Ultimate realignments also may place the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs in either one or the other of the Departments.

The industry has long sought more active representation and cooperation in foreign markets from the State Department. Developments now in the making may go a long way toward providing them, it is believed here.

Dembow to Golden Productions Monday

Sam Dembow, Jr., whose resignation as vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp. becomes effective today, will formally become a member of Golden Productions as president in charge of the company in the East on Monday.

Edward A. Golden, slated to be chairman of the board of the new company, will leave here in about ten days for the Coast where he will make his headquarters. The company plans to produce three pictures in two years, with an estimated budget of $3,000,000.

Lantz Considers Features

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 30. — Walter Lantz, producer of "Cartunes" for Universal distribution, is canvassing exhibitors for their opinions of his plan to produce cartoon subjects, some of them combining "live" action with pen-and-ink material, in 40 to 50-minute length for exhibition in the secondary spot on dual bills.

Services Praise Films: Ask War Aid Continued

(Continued from page 1)

for coming to the support of the OWI in producing, distributing and exhibiting OWI and Government "how-to-win-the-war" messages, after the OWI budget for this purpose was curtailed. He stressed that the 1945 emphasis in OWI-suggested films will be to have the public continue its war effort until the war is won and then to treat with the organization of the victory. He asked the industry to continue its "enormously valuable cooperation" in 1945.

Capt. Markey cited the need to make the public understand, through films, that they must continue to work together to win the war. There are 10,000,000 Japs to be killed after victory in Europe, he declared. He appealed for a continuation of films that reflect a realistic attitude toward the war and inform the American public of what is going on.

Brig. General Denig paid tribute to combat teams from the industry which made possible such films as "The Battle for the Marianas"; he cited the work of Sgt. Burt B. Balaban, son of Barney Balaban, in aerial photography. Sgt. Balaban was present.

Col. Mitchell expressed the gratitude of the Army for the industry's aid in getting war information behind the headlines to the masses through films.

Among the films which the industry will be asked to distribute for the Army in 1945, he said, are a trailer to tell American workingmen that the job to defeat Japan calls for 100 per cent effort; a film tentatively titled "B-29's Over Tokyo"; a film showing what the Yanks did in France; one dealing with General MacArthur's invasion of the Philippines, and a film showing how cooperation between air and ground forces helped to dislodge the Nazis in Italy.

Major Orton Hicks, distribution chief of the Army's Overseas Motion Picture Service paid tribute to the industry for its 16mm gift films, pointing out that the Army now has over 5,000 projectors overseas and 22,825 feature prints of 833 different film programs.

Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American Red Cross cited the value of film showings in aiding morale of wounded soldiers at the front and paid tribute to the industry's cooperation in the Red Cross drives.

Ted R. Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division of the U. S. Treasury, stressed that the industry has contributed the greatest single selling job on war bonds and appealed to film company presidents to back up their men who are participating in this job.

A budget of $180,000, the same as this year, was approved for next year to continue the work of the War Activities Committee, to be collected in thirds from producers, distributors and exhibitors, Herman Gluckman, national WAC treasurer, reported.

Ned E. Depinet reported on the activities of the WAC distributors' division; $100,000 was voted at the meeting for the industry's participation in a Seventh war loan drive of the Treasury; John C. Flinn reported on the activities of the Hollywood division; John W. Alicoate cited the contributions of the trade press; and Harry Brandt reported on progress in the industry's Sixth War Loan participation.

Fabian, head of the WAC theatre's division, reported that his division had voted at a meeting held earlier to have the nation's theatres participate in the Red Cross drive in March 1945 and had pledged to continue to back any project that the group was called upon by the Government to support. He said that a resolution had been adopted calling for a discontinuance of discussion as to whether the WAC should be continued after the war.

Appreciation Vote

Resolutions of appreciation of the work of Mayer, Stanton Griffis and Flinn were offered by George J. Schaefer, WAC chairman. The meeting was opened with a silent tribute to the members of the industry who have given their lives for the United Nations. Harmon called for a rededication of the industry's activities in the war effort in 1945.

Others present at the meeting included Will H. Hays, Nicholas Schenck, Barney Balaban, Spyros Skouras, N. Peter Rathvon, Major Albert Warner, Jack Cohn, Adolph Zukor James R. Grainger, Gradwell L. Sears, William F. Rodgers, Tom Connors, Charles M. Reagan, John J. O'Connor, Joseph Bernhard, Malcolm Kingsberg, Leonard Goldenson, C. C. Mostowitz, R. J. O'Donnell, R. B. Wilby, Karl Hoblitzelle, Earl Hudson, Sam Pinanski, Lee Newbury, Martin Smith, Sam Morris, E. T. Gomersall, Sam Rinzler, Phil Reisman, Carl Leserman, Oscar Doob, George Dembow, Herman Robbins, Robert Mochrie, William Crockett, Jay Emanuel, Abe Montague, Major Monroe Greenthal, Pvt. David Lipton, Leon Bamberger, Walter Vincent, Dan Michalove, Taylor Mills, Harry Lowenstein, Claude Lee, Tom Baily, Edward Schreiber, Walter Brown and representatives of the trade press.

New York's Zoning Rules Become Law

(Continued from page 1)

at present inhabitated by existing buildings because the owners of the land, now utilizing 100 per cent of the ground area, would be reluctant to sacrifice such a high percentage for a new building.

Leo Brecher, mid-Manhattan theatre operator, has also attacked the zoning amendments, citing that he would encounter difficulties in erecting a proposed new theatre. He said that the new house would have to be slashed from a plot area of 7,500 feet to 5,875 feet.

Lasky and MacEwen In New Company

(Continued from page 1)

ly at whatever studio distributes his product. MacEwen, former Warner and Paramount producer, is Lasky's partner in the venture, and vice-president of the new company, of which Lasky is president.

Lasky told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that he has commitments from two ranking stars, to be named later, and will acquire story properties during his stay in the East. His last film was "Rhapsody in Blue," unreleased Warner picture, in which he owns an interest.

Schaefer, Harmon Reelected by WAC

(Continued from page 1)

in New York yesterday morning. Leonard Goldenson was elected treasurer of the division, succeeding Arthur L. Mayer. E. V. Richards was reelected co-chairman and Joseph Bernhard was reelected honorary chairman.

John Cromwell was elected chairman of the Hollywood division of the WAC, it was reported at the meeting by Harmon, and E. J. Mannix was reelected vice-chairman. Tom Baily was elected to succeed John C. Flinn as coordinator of the Hollywood division. Executive committee members of the Hollywood division who have been reelected include: Bert Allenberg, Y. Frank Freeman, Trem Carr, Kenneth Thompson and Walter Wanger. Elected to the Hollywood division executive committee are Fred Beetson, Harry Brand, Emmet Lavery and George Murphy.

John W. Alicoate was reelected as head of the WAC trade press division here.

New chairmen of the distributors' division, now headed by Ned E. Depinet; the foreign managers' division, headed by Joseph McConville, and the public relations division, headed by Oscar A. Doob, will be selected soon.

20th's 39-Week Net $9,487,929

(Continued from page 1)

vertible preferred stocks, on 1,742,840 shares of common outstanding.

Consolidated net profit, after all charges, for the third quarter, ended Sept. 23, was $3,149,496 compared to earnings of $3,471,835 for a similar period last year.

Gross income from film rentals and theatre receipts amounted to $127,796,826 for the 39-week period. Dividends and rents from tenants and other income brought gross income to $132,666,188. Exchange operations and theatres expenses, amortization of production and other costs and participation in film rentals amounted to $98,181,539.

Provision for Federal taxes amounted to $21,605,000 for the 39-weeks period.

Consolidated net for the 39 weeks of 1943, which did not include National Theatres and Roxy Theatre, was $7,187,098, or $3.49 a share. National Theatres became a wholly-owned subsidiary on July 9, 1943.

Film Accessories Going Overseas

Distributors yesterday approved a request of the U. S. Army for one sheets, press books, stills and other accessories to go with films shipped to its 21 Army exchanges overseas. Uncertainty of movements had hindered sending any material before, but now with so many posts stationary, the Army desires to publicize its film shows in advance.

At a discussion held yesterday among distributors' promotional heads, it was agreed that since many pictures shown overseas are exhibited before press books, one sheets and other accessories are prepared, it will be necessary to present the newest films without promotional material.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 106 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Grosses Spurt; 4th Highest Week This Year

Average $18,494 at 132 Key Downtown Theatres

After two months of slight recession, box office receipts at 132 key-city first-runs took a spurt during November and especially last week, when an average-per-theatre gross of $18,494, the fourth highest of the year, was registered, according to reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents. It was the best seven days since the week ending Sept. 8-9, which showed $18,775.

With the exception of one week in the middle of the month, November averages continued to run substantially ahead of November of last year, the greatest gain coming in the first week: $16,708 compared with $14,078 for the corresponding period in 1943. Following that, the 1944 average dipped slightly, to $16,049, then

(Continued on Page 7)

Strike Halts Para. St. Louis Delivery

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 3.—Seventeen members of the AFL Film Exchange Employes' Locals B-1 and F-1 went on strike at the Paramount Film Distributing Co. branch here Friday in an effort to force three St. Louis County neighborhood theatres to hire union operators and stagehands. The strike prevents delivery of Paramount Pictures to theatres in Eastern Missouri and parts of Illinois, Kentucky and Arkansas. The number of Paramount films shown in this area is between 15 and 20 per cent of the total bookings, it is estimated by Maurice Schwartz, local manager.

The employees refused to work after Paramount permitted delivery of

(Continued on Page 7)

Roosevelt, Hays in RCA 25th Tribute

Tribute to radio's wartime achievements was voiced by many, and underscored by a message from President Roosevelt, at the 25th anniversary dinner of RCA Friday night at the Waldorf-Astoria here. Speakers included Major Gen. H. C. Ingles, Chief Signal Officer, United States Army; Rear Admiral Joseph R. Redman, director of Naval Communica-

(Continued on Page 7)

20th Starts Sales Meet

The mid-Winter sales meeting of 20th Century-Fox will start at the Hotel Astor here today, with Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales, presiding. The meetings will continue through Wednesday or Thursday.

Spyros Skouras, president, will deliver an address, on Wednesday, with Connors conducting the meetings, and daily sessions being handled by W.

(Continued on page 8)

Rathvon Will Head Red Cross Drive

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, has accepted the national chairmanship of "Red Cross Movie Week" during the 1945 Red Cross War Fund campaign in March, it was announced here today by Colby M. Chester, chairman of the next Red Cross campaign. Rathvon will direct and coordinate the efforts of the industry's War Activities Committee on behalf of the campaign. Rathvon, who has taken

N. Peter Rathvon

(Continued on page 8)

WLB Sets Dec. 15 For Bonus Filing

Dec. 15 has been set by the Regional War Labor Board here for the filing of applications by companies intending to pay employee Christmas bonuses. Applications are not required for bonuses up to $25 or in the same amount or percentage of bonuses given last year, which do not need WLB approval.

Loew's is the only company to date, of the several which usually give holiday bonuses which has announced a payment this year.

Rodgers Asks Unity Now to Aid Post-war

"Immediate unity between exhibitor and distributor is essential now, if the industry is to present a united front to post-war problems," William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president, in charge of sales, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY at the weekend. "The industry will face many problems in the post-war, of which little can be predicted," he said.

The M-G-M executive said that he is working on several plans to increase exhibitor attendance at trade showings but had arrived at no definite conclusion as yet. He said that M-G-M had derived no special benefits from the recent streamlining of its sales contracts, but had simplified them for the convenience of the exhibitor. Nothing essential had been cut from the contracts.

Blue Invites Industry Television Cooperation

The Blue Network, at the weekend, invited film companies intending to eventually participate in television, to cooperate with the Blue in developing that media. Policies along those lines were outlined on Friday by Chester J. LaRoche, vice-chairman of the network at a luncheon-meeting with the press at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria here.

LaRoche said that the Blue will interchange television ideas with film companies and that the network desires to work with the companies and learn about their future plans in television. He said that the Blue could help the companies promote their films

Continued on Page 7

Breen's Contract Is Extended 3 Years

The contract between Joseph I. Breen, Production Code Administrator, in Hollywood, and the MPPDA, was extended on Friday for three additional years, and Breen has been designated a vice-president of the organization, headquarters of the MPPDA reported on Friday. Breen also has been named a director of the Production Code Administration.

Government May Seek Interim Decree

Justice Dept. Is Ready For Tuesday Hearing

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Designation of a date for trial of the film consent decree case is expected to be asked of the New York Federal District Court on Tuesday by the Department of Justice, when argument is scheduled to be heard on the Department's motion for modification of the decree.

The major point of the Government's action, it is reiterated at the Department of Justice, here, is to secure divestiture of distributor-owned theatres, and since that issue will require several years before a

(Continued on page 8)

Warner Resignation Long A-Brewing

Warners' action of late last week in giving notice of its intention to resign from the M. P. Producers and Distributors of America was reported at the weekend to have been the result of an accumulation of differences extending over a period of several years, rather than of any single current or recent development.

The company maintained official silence on the incident; so did

(Continued on Page 7)

Vanguard to Aid UA Producers for 25%

David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films has been making offers to United Artists producers offering them facilities and supervision in production in return for 25 per cent of the profits.

First producer set-up to accept the offer is Ripley-Monter, making "Look Homeward Angel," which will be made under the Vanguard supervision. Negotiations are proceeding with several others, it is understood.

Reviewed Today

Review of "Guest in the House" appears on page 8.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK left New York for the Coast at the weekend.

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SPYROS SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, and his assistant, SAM SHAIN, left for Washington at the weekend. SKOURAS is considering a trip to London and possibly Greece shortly after Jan. 1.

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ANTOINETTE SPITZER, Eastern publicity director for Walt Disney Prod., is convalescing at Manhattan General Hospital, following a major operation, Friday.

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NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, president of Loew's, has cancelled his scheduled Coast trip and will remain in New York for the present.

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BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, left over the weekend for the Coast, with a stopover in Chicago.

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WALTER BRANSON, RKO western division sales manager, will return to New York today from a tour of his territory.

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SIR ALEXANDER KORDA and BEN GOETZ, MGM British production heads, are en route here from London.

•

SAM KATZMAN, Monogram producer, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, left for the Coast over the weekend.

•

WILL YOLEN of Warner Bros. publicity staff will leave today for Albany.

•

JOE ROBERTS, of Vanguard Pictures Eastern publicity staff, is in Chicago.

Autry Says Induction Voids Republic Pact

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 3.—Gene Autry contended in Superior Court here at the weekend that his contract with Republic was automatically terminated by his induction into the Armed Forces in August, 1942.

Nathanson to Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 3.—Nate Nathanson, United Artists branch manager in Milwaukee, will succeed Sid Rose as head of the local UA branch, in January. Rose will move to Los Angeles to take over the branch there; it has been vacant for six months. Bob Allen, UA salesman here, will succeed Nathanson in Milwaukee.

Knudsen Screening Host

DAYTON, Ohio, Dec. 3.—Lt. Gen. William L. Knudsen was host to Army Air Force officers and industrial leaders at a dinner and special screening of 20th Century-Fox's "Winged Victory" in the Van Cleve Hotel here Friday.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ALTHOUGH self-admittedly Capt. Gene Markey is no silver or even aluminum-tongued orator, the sincerity with which he delivered his message from Washington to the industry made his remarks as impressive as any heard at the luncheon which featured the annual meeting of the War Activities Committee here last Thursday.

Markey explained that before leaving Washington for New York he had asked whether there was any message for the motion picture industry. "Tell them," was the reply, "what Admiral Mitscher said; 'We've got to kill ten million Japs'."

Implicit in that message is the reminder that the war job of every American is far from being ended. It is the continuing job of the industry and its War Activities Committee to help impress that fact upon the American people.

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Markey observed that he has found an "appallingly selfish attitude on the home front, particularly where money is spent freely. It amounts," Markey said, "almost to an indifference to the war."

"The American people will have to pull together better than they have been if the war is to be ended soon," he said. "The war against the Japs could drag on for longer than any of us like to think. Our people need a realistic view of the war. I'm afraid they don't have it. The motion picture industry can do more than any other to supply it."

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Elmer Davis, head of the Office of War Information, also emphasized the need for continuation of industry aid, and declared that that need would exist even in the postwar period. In addressing the luncheon meeting Davis said: "We hope for the continuation of your tremendously important help in many vital postwar activities. The American people must be told what kind of a world they must help patch up and get going again, and what their government is doing about it. The world must be educated to win the peace."

Motion pictures, Davis said, will be among the most important agencies in the effort to accomplish those essential postwar aims.

All of which would appear to demonstrate that the industry's service to the nation cannot be terminated when the war is won, that, in fact, peace will bring with it the need for new services to the nation and the world that this industry is best equipped to perform. There can be no demobilization in the theatres, the studios, the exchanges, the executive offices and the War Activities Committee (even though its label be changed) on V-E Day or V-J Day.

• •

Food for exhibitor thought is to be found in some of the statements which Assistant U. S. Attorney General Wendell Berge made concerning Department of Justice views of the consent decree, when interviewed by MOTION PICTURE DAILY in New York last week.

The Department, Berge said, is willing to compromise with decree companies on virtually anything except the divorcement of affiliated theatres. The statement goes a long way toward substantiating the beliefs of many in the industry that the Department is vastly more interested in pursuing that ole debbil "monopoly," the reigning favorite of the Attorney General's court, than it is of effecting trade practice reforms of direct and immediate benefit to exhibition and distribution. If trade practice benefits result from the chase, or if they do not, that is quite incidental to the first objective, for, the trade belief is, the philosophical Department is committed to the theory that if "monopoly" can be found out and laid low, all other ills either disappear automatically or are of no consequence. The Department, this trade view holds, looks upon the integration of production and distribution, on the one hand, and exhibition on the other as the form, if not the substance, of monopoly.

•

Yet, how few, proportionately, are the exhibitors who expect or hope to benefit in any manner from affiliated theatre divorcement, should ever it occur. It is a legalistic issue, not a trade panacea, and therein lies the hopelessness of beneficial trade practices emerging from this or any other prosecution.

What the majority of exhibitors want eventually will come from within the industry, not from edict or decree.

Goodfried Aide to Williams at U. A.

Rex Williams, head of United Artists' exploitation, has appointed Robert Goodfried his assistant, at the same time announcing several changes in field personnel. Goodfried has been handling premieres and field openings for United Artists for more than a year.

Fred Joyce of Chicago was named exploitation supervisor in the Chicago-Minneapolis - Milwaukee - Indianapolis areas, with Harold Evans and Homer Lambert as assistants; Manny Pearson will handle Cleveland-Detroit-Cincinnati, assisted by Ken Renaud. Other appointments are: Charlie Shaw, Philadelphia; David Polland, Washington; Hubert Scott, St. Louis; Al Lake, Los Angeles; Lew Maren, San Francisco; Willard Coughlin, Seattle; William Lewis, Dallas-New Orleans, and Eddie Bonns, Atlanta-Charlotte. Ben Hill was named to the Southern exploitation staff. Phil Engel, Boston exploiteer, will supervise New England and New York state, working with Al Gorson and Paul Morris.

'Life With Father' From WB in 1947

Warners, on Friday, confirmed its purchase of "Life with Father" for a $500,000 advance against royalties which are understood to run as high as 50 per cent, after two-and-one-half years of negotiations with Oscar Serlin, the play's producer; Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, its authors, and Mrs. Clarence Day, widow of the writer upon whose sketches the comedy is based. The picture, in color, will not be released, however, until 1947, with Lindsay, Crouse and Mrs. Day aiding in production.

The play, in its five years, is said to have grossed some $8,000,000.

Schenck Names Eight More 'Dimes' Heads

Roster of state chairmen for the industry's 1945 March of Dimes drive will be completed this week, Nicholas M. Schneck, drive chairman, disclosed here at the weekend, announcing at the same tme eight additional acceptances, as follows:

Albert Finke, Oregon; Frank Newman, Washington; J. Myer Schine, Northern New York; Elmer Rhoden, Kansas; Charles Skouras, Robert Poole, George Mann and Albert Law, California co-chairmen; and, participating for the first time, Alaska chairman Robert Peratrovich.

Music Educators Meet

Preview of the Jerome Kern-E. Y. Harburg score of Universal's "Can't Help Singing" was a feature of Saturday's Fall meeting of the In-and-About Music Educators Group of New York. Guest speaker at the gathering, held at the Plaza Hotel, was Deems Taylor, who discussed "The Influence of Motion Pictures on Music Education."

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5-star news

from 20th Century-Fox

the biggest figure in the industry

5 stars-new and great

from 20th Century-Fox, the biggest figure in star building

Jeanne Crain

The public loved her in "Home In Indiana." Now she's the sweetheart of the Army Air Corps in Moss Hart's "Winged Victory"!

Vivian Blaine

The exciting Cherry Blonde is the something in "Something For The Boys" and she's going to be plenty gorgeous in "Nob Hill"!

June Haver

Even more beautiful in "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" than in "Home In Indiana." Then she'll star in "Where Do We Go From Here?"

William Eythe

answers the need for romantic male talent. In "Wilson" and "Bernadette," he earns stardom in Lubitsch's "A Royal Scandal."

5-star news

from 20th Century-Fox

the biggest **figure** in the industry

...and the new screen star with millions of radio fans!

Dick Haymes

His romantic songs have extended his radio fame to the screen! Starred now in "Irish Eyes Are Smiling"—next in "Diamond Horseshoe"!

remember the names....

JEANNE CRAIN ★ VIVIAN BLAINE
JUNE HAVER ★ WILLIAM EYTHE ★ DICK HAYME

all star-built by 20th *Century-Fox*

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

Roosevelt, Hays in RCA 25th Tribute

(Continued from page 1)

tions, and Col. David Sarnoff, president of RCA.

Dr. James Rowland Angell, public service councellor of the NBC, served as toastmaster, and Lowell Thomas was master of ceremonies.

Among guests was Will Hays, MPPDA president.

President Roosevelt's message, said: "I wish you and all members of the RCA family continued success in pioneering. With television as a new postwar industry of great promise in the fields of employment, entertainment and education, I know that under your guidance and vision RCA will continue to contribute to the economic and cultural values created by radio."

Col. Sarnoff disclosed that a few hours earlier the board of directors had approved an RCA pension-retirement plan for service prior to Dec. 1, 1944 and life annuities for RCA employes based on equal contributions from the employes and the company after that date. The plan became effective Dec. 1 subject to approval by stockholders and the U. S. Treasury.

RCA's board of directors also voted dividends of 87½ cents per share for the period from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31 on first preferred stock, payable Jan. 2 to stockholders of record Dec. 11, and a 20 cents per share dividend payable Jan. 30 to holders of record Dec. 15.

Ed Schreiber Feted At WAC Luncheon

The War Activities Committee on Friday honored Ed Schreiber at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor upon his resignation from the WAC, as of Dec. 1, to become vice-president in charge of films at Richard Condon, Inc. Schreiber headed the WAC publicity department since its inception two years ago.

Speakers included: Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator; Si H. Fabian, WAC theatres division head; Harry Brandt, Sixth War Loan industry chairman; Jay Emanuel, Sixth War Loan coordinator, and Condon. Walter T. Brown, who succeeds Schreiber, was toastmaster.

Blue Invites Industry Video Cooperation

(Continued from page 1)

by telecasting trailers to homes having television receivers in the postwar. Film companies are also offered facilities of the Blue to promote new films through 15 minute-television shows in the postwar. The Blue expects to open a television department and to begin producing in about two weeks.

Goldberg Starts New Post

Lou Goldberg has taken over as general manager of the Staten Island Fabian circuit of seven theatres, succeeding Irving Liner, who died last week. Goldberg was formerly New York zone manager for RKO.

Lt. Fitzgerald Killed

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 3.—Lt. Richard H. Fitzgerald, U.S.A., was killed in action Oct. 26 at Leyte. He was the sun of Harold J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox Wisconsin Amusement Corp.

Grosses Spurt to $18,494, 4th Highest Week in '44

(Continued from page 1)

to $15,761, after which it climbed to $16,477 and finally to last week's high of the month.

"Since You Went Away" led the field for the second straight month, with "Laura" in the runner-up position. Tied for third were "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," "Marriage Is a Private Affair" and "Mrs. Parkington." Close on the heels of these leaders came "The Princess and the Pirate," "I Love a Soldier" and "The Conspirators," while almost as strong were "Mr. Skeffington," "The Master Race," "An American Romance," "Rainbow Island," "Arsenic and Old Lace," "Casanova Brown," "Tall in the Saddle," "Together Again," "And Now Tomorrow" and "Frenchman's Creek."

Composite key first-run boxoffice reports, compared with the corresponding weeks last year, follow:

1944 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Dec. 31-Jan. 1	135	$2,213,500	$16,396
Jan. 7-8	117	2,417,700	20,664
Jan. 14-15	134	2,040,700	15,229
Jan. 21-22	149	2,311,400	15,513
Jan. 28-29	147	2,365,200	16,090
Feb. 4-5	153	2,512,200	16,419
Feb. 11-12	137	2,220,000	16,211
Feb. 18-19	155	2,459,800	15,870
Feb. 25-26	161	2,760,100	17,144
March 3-4	147	2,397,100	16,307
March 10-11	147	2,463,400	16,758
March 17-18	153	2,661,100	18,761
March 24-25	150	2,487,700	16,585
Mar. 31-Apr. 1	152	3,025,000	13,329
April 7-8	153	2,340,600	15,298
April 14-15	143	2,506,800	17,530
April 21-22	148	2,564,200	17,326
April 28-29	130	2,090,900	16,084
May 5-6	143	2,238,700	15,655
May 12-13	146	2,338,700	16,018
May 19-20	162	2,417,000	14,926
May 26-27	155	2,349,400	15,157
June 2-3	143	2,242,500	15,683
June 9-10	141	1,938,000	13,752
June 16-17	135	1,934,400	14,322
June 23-24	136	2,002,800	14,726
June 30-July 1	126	2,178,300	17,288
July 7-8	145	2,490,900	17,178
July 14-15	144	2,228,500	15,478
July 21-22	148	2,321,400	15,685
July 28-29	135	2,245,400	16,632
Aug. 4-5	141	2,324,500	15,777
Aug. 11-12	148	2,355,200	15,913
Aug. 18-19	153	2,514,100	16,433
Aug. 25-26	141	2,516,800	17,850
Sept. 1-2	127	2,313,600	18,217
Sept. 8-9	144	2,703,600	18,775
Sept. 15-16	158	2,638,200	16,697
Sept. 22-23	146	2,505,900	17,164
Sept. 29-30	156	2,640,700	16,927
Oct. 6-7	136	2,411,500	17,732
Oct. 13-14	152	2,457,200	16,165
Oct. 20-21	157	2,641,300	16,824
Oct. 27-28	145	2,450,900	16,902
Nov. 3-4	139	2,322,400	16,708
Nov. 10-11	140	2,246,900	16,049
Nov. 17-18	145	2,285,300	15,761
Nov. 24-25	150	2,471,600	16,477
Dec. 1-2	132	2,441,200	18,494

1943 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 1-2	151	$2,813,506	$18,632
Jan. 8-9	154	2,424,300	15,742
Jan. 15-16	149	1,830,500	12,285
Jan. 21-22	127	1,448,600	12,981
Jan. 29-30	127	1,789,500	14,091
Feb. 5-6	126	1,743,000	13,040
Feb. 12-13	132	1,919,000	14,588
Feb. 19-20	139	1,885,900	13,568
Feb. 26-27	149	2,005,200	13,458
March 5-6	142	1,933,400	13,615
March 12-13	151	1,944,600	12,878
March 19-20	143	1,968,300	13,764
March 26-27	147	1,938,200	13,185
April 2-3	123	1,785,800	14,519
April 9-10	147	2,029,100	13,803
April 16-17	147	1,868,500	12,711
April 23-24	158	2,006,200	12,634
Apr. 30-May 1	154	2,284,200	14,184
May 7-8	161	2,168,400	13,468
May 14-15	161	2,053,700	18,967
May 21-22	158	2,096,200	13,267
May 28-29	155	2,036,600	13,139
June 4-5	169	2,289,700	13,548
June 11-12	166	1,865,873	11,240
June 18-19	163	1,961,600	12,034
June 25-26	168	2,125,300	12,650
July 2-3	164	2,133,800	13,010
July 9-10	153	2,433,700	15,906
July 16-17	151	2,109,400	13,970
July 23-24	155	2,185,100	14,097
July 30-31	164	2,347,900	14,316
Aug. 6-7	138	2,032,400	14,727
Aug. 13-14	166	2,302,200	13,869
Aug. 20-21	153	2,341,600	15,304
Aug. 27-28	175	2,681,500	15,322
Sept. 3-4	163	2,559,900	15,705
Sept. 10-11	168	2,926,000	17,417
Sept. 17-18	165	2,456,300	14,887
Sept. 24-25	175	2,588,200	14,790
Oct. 1-2	166	2,473,800	14,902
Oct. 8-9	173	2,595,800	15,005
Oct. 15-16	167	2,544,600	15,237
Oct. 22-23	163	2,479,000	15,209
Oct. 29-30	179	2,608,800	14,574
Nov. 5-6	170	2,393,200	14,078
Nov. 12-13	166	2,467,100	14,862
Nov. 19-20	132	2,134,500	16,163
Nov. 26-27	145	2,259,600	15,583
Dec. 3-4	138	2,333,900	16,912

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Overseas Stars on 6th War Loan Air Show

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 3.—Hollywood stars who have been overseas will be featured on a one-hour, Coast-to-Coast, Sixth War Loan radio show, "The Show Goes On," on Dec. 6, via NBC, the Hollywood Victory Committee of the War Activities Committee announced at the weekend.

Among those who will appear are: Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Dinah Shore, Paulette Goddard, Ann Sheridan, Edgar Bergen, Al Jolson, Frances Langford, Jerry Colonna, Fred Astaire, Ingrid Bergman and Jack Benny who will be picked up entertaining servicemen in a hospital.

The industry's Sixth War Loan Committee is sponsoring the broadcast.

Dillon, Scenarist, Dies

Word reached here at the weekend of the death in Los Angeles of Robert A. Dillon 55, scenarist and former serial editor for Universal. He is survived by two brothers, Maurice and Edward, a staff member of the New York *Daily News*.

Strike Halts Para. St. Louis Delivery

(Continued from page 1)

a film to the Osage theatre in Kirkwood and the Ozark theatre in Webster Groves.

Later, the Kirkwood Amusement Corp., operator of the Kirkwood theater, filed an injunction suit in Federal Court to force film deliveries, alleging the distributors breached their contract by failure to deliver.

Defendants are Warner Bros. Pictures Distribution Corp., Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.; 20th Century-Fox Film Corp., and Monogram Pictures.

All three theaters employ non-union operators. The Ozark has been picketed for four years.

Lt. Steinberg Dies

HARTFORD, Dec. 3.—Edith Hoffman Steinberg, daughter of I. J. Hoffman, Warner zone manager for New England, was notified at the weekend of the death in action of her husband, Lt. Gerald Steinberg, who was serving with Gen. Patton's 3rd Army.

Warner Resignation From MPPDA Long A-Brewing

(Continued from page 1)

MPPDA officials. Under the association's by-laws, a resignation does not become effective until six months after notice of intention to resign has been given. Accordingly, Warners will remain a member of the MPPDA at least until May 30, 1945.

In 1937, a similar situation prevailed. Warners than discontinued payment of membership dues to the MPPDA but did not resign. After an interval of several months, payments were resumed.

The company also has served notice of its intention of withdrawing from the Association of M. P. Producers, Hollywood, but will continue to submit its pictures to the Production Code Administration for code seals and its advertising matter and stills to the Advertising Code Administration for clearance. Both units are adjuncts of MPPDA. The services of the PCA are available to non-members at a "nominal" fee based on production costs of individual pictures submitted to it.

General Reasons

Laking official confirmation, it was reported that the Warner letter to MPPDA attributed the company's action to general, rather than specific, reasons; making references to disagreements on policies of the association and also to differences between itself and member companies of the association, and contending that the association had not resolved either source of dissatisfaction. Warners reportedly concluded the letter with the statement that the company would continue to cooperate individually with other companies in matters pertaining to public welfare.

In the East, among issues reportedly causing recent dissatisfaction in the Warner camp were newly proposed raw stock allocations which the company regarded as unduly penalizing it, and developments pertaining to the Federal consent decree, particularly with reference to affiliated theatre divorcement moves of the Department of Justice.

In the West, dissatisfaction was reported to have been engendered by difficulties the company is said to have experienced with the Screen Actors Guild in talent arrangements for "Hollywood Canteen," as well as by more individualistic differences with other production companies.

Little credence was given in New York to the reports emanating from the Coast that dissatisfaction with labor policies and negotiations under the studio basic agreement with the international unions played an important part in the Warner action.

Rites for Mrs. Goldsmith

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 3.—Funeral services were held last week at the Sons of Abraham Synagogue for Mrs. Emma Goldsmith, 73, mother of Arthur Goldsmith, special representative for RKO in Cleveland. Mrs. Goldsmith, who died at Albany Hospital, was prominent in Jewish groups and philanthropic organizations.

Government May Seek Interim Decree

(Continued from page 1)

final decision by the U. S. Supreme Court could be obtained, the Department may ask the District court in New York to issue an interim decree embodying other trade 'reforms' sought in the motion filed by the Government last Aug. 7.

About six weeks' notice of the hearing probably would be given, providing time in which the Department and the companies might come to an agreement for a consent decree on trade practices. If such an agreement cannot be made, the Department expects to ask the court to deal first with those practices, render an opinion and decree and then go into the question of divorcement.

Assistant U. S. Attorney-General Wendell Berge, in charge of the anti-trust division, indicated that the matter of an interim agreement may be taken up with the distributors. While much depends upon the position the companies will take, Berge said, there are some points they may be willing to concede and others which can be included on a temporary basis.

First Issues

If the companies are not willing to accept such an interim arrangement, it may be possible to have those issues tried before the question of divorcement is taken up, Berge intimated.

Through such an arrangement, he pointed out, independent exhibitors would be given the protection they have been seeking, while the Government and the distributors fought out the question whether the latter are to be permitted to own theatres.

Berge repeated, definitely, that the Department's policy has been determined and that he and Attorney-General Francis Biddle are in agreement that the case shall be 'fought to a finish,' with the opening gun to be fired Tuesday, when an agreement will be sought on the procedure to be followed. If the argument is not heard on Tuesday, Berge said, it will be because Federal Judge Henry Goddard, and not the Government, decrees a delay. Robert L. Wright, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, in charge of the Department's film unit, will appear before Judge Goddard.

Will Decide Arthur Hearing Date Today

Counsel for Harry Arthur, the Government and the five decree consenting companies will confer today with Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard in U. S. District Court here on a new hearing date for Arthur's action to intervene in the Federal anti-trust suit against the companies. The Arthur case was set for hearing tomorrow but Judge Goddard is engaged in trial of another case and a postponement may be necessary.

John Caskey of counsel for 20th Century-Fox is scheduled to represent the companies at the conference with Judge Goddard today and Assistant U. S. Attorney General Robert L. Wright is expected here from Washington as the Government's representative. Russell Hardy is attorney for Arthur.

Review

"Guest in the House"

(Hunt Stromberg-United Artists)

FROM the stage play of the same name, Hunt Stromberg has conceived, in "Guest in the House," a superior film in the genre of those psychological dramas that are so much in vogue. His version is considerably enhanced by such sturdy assets as superb production, Lee Garmes' outstanding photography and the subtle scoring of Werner Janssen. Anne Baxter, Ralph Bellamy, Aline MacMahon, Ruth Warrick, among others, register handsome performances; John Brahm's direction is painstaking. It all adds up to definite box-office.

Miss Baxter's memorable characterization of a wan-faced neurotic with a heart condition who insinuates herself into the graces of the exuberant household of Ralph Bellamy, an artist, by playing upon their pity, and then uses this pity to indulge in poisonous intrigue, will earn for her an abundance of cordial hatred from numerous audiences. Behind her surface mask, as the helpless invalid, lurks a diseased mind corroded by her evil desire to win Bellamy. Carefully she plants the seed of suspicion in the impressionable brain of Connie Laird, Bellamy's daughter, until it mushrooms into a dark thing that grips the entire household. After she has driven Marie McDonald, Bellamy's shapely model, from the house, and helps to estrange Bellamy and Ruth Warrick, his wife, Miss Baxter really comes into her own. Like an evil tropical flower she blooms, nursed by the damage she has wrought in other peoples' lives.

Shamelessly she thrusts herself at Bellamy, proclaiming her love for him, until he recoils in horror. Once the mask is torn from her, the family braces itself and decides to expel her. But she has one trump card left, her hold on Scott McKay, Bellamy's brother. Despite her contempt for him, she professes to love him. Her own neuroticism destroys her when she flees in terror at the fear of the fluttering wings of a bird.

Ketti Frings' screenplay, from the play by Hagar Wilde and Dale Eunson, provides opportunity for a fluent performance by Bellamy who presides over a merry household until the blight of Miss Baxter's arrival. Miss Warrick is his gay spouse; Jerome Cowan is enjoyable as a family friend and Percy Kilbride and Margarat Hamilton provide some of the comedy. Only fault to mar an otherwise fine production is the somewhat over-length, some 121 minutes, but this is a minor criticism which should not prevent the film being accorded top playing time. Stromberg has another winner.

Running time, 121 minutes. "G"* Release date, Dec. 8.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

Para. Partners Will LeaveHere This Week

Several Paramount theatre partners who were in New York for conferences with Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, and to attend the annual meeting of the War Activities Committee, will have left for their respective cities by early this week.

Already departed are: W. K. Jenkins and R. B. Wilby, Atlanta, and John Balaban, Chicago. Others attending the meetings were: Karl Hoblitzelle and R. J. O'Donnell, Dallas; E. V. Richards, New Orleans; John J. Friedl, Minneapolis; J. J. Fitzgibbons, Toronto; Earl Hudson, Detroit, and Sam Pinanski, Boston.

Rathvon Will Head Red Cross Drive

(Continued from page 1)

part in Red Cross work in the past, will direct the entire motion picture industry in its nationwide theatre solicitation for funds during the drive.

Last March, under the direction of Joseph Bernhard, of Warner Theatres, the industry raised approximately $7,000,000.

Jack Banner Promoted

Lt. Jack Banner, USMS, has been advanced to the rank of Lt. Commander and has been assigned to temporary duty in New York as Regional Public Relations Officer. Following this assignment Banner, who formerly conducted a radio column titled *Banner Lines* in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, will return to Washington where he is assistant to the Chief Public Relations Officer, USMS.

Zabin Forms a Film Div. for Grey Agency

James B. Zabin, who recently resigned as general manager of Cinema Circuit Corp., here, and who, prior to that, was active in film and theatre advertising for Buchanan and Co. is organizing a films division for the Grey Advertising Agency.

20th-Fox Starts Sales Meet Here

(Continued from page 1)

C. Gehring, Western sales manager; A. W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales manager, and L. J. Schlaifer, Central sales manager.

Attending the meetings will be all of the division, district and branch managers from the U. S. and Canada, including Herman Wobber, Coast division manager, and Harry G. Balance, Southern division manager.

Home office officials and executives who will be on hand will be: W. C. Michel, Hal Horne, Martin Moskowitz, Jack Sichelman, William J. Clark, Jack Bloom, E. H. Collins, Clarence Hill, Charles Schlaifer, and Roger Ferri. Also Paul Terry and Harvey Day of Terrytoons; March of Time's John Wood, Phil A. Williams, Richard De Rochemont and Howard Black.

General sales manager W. J. Kupper, at present in Los Angeles recuperating from a recent illness, will be the only sales executive absent.

District managers attending will include: Edgar Moss, Paul S. Wilson, Philip Longdon, E. X. Callahan, J. J. Grady, J. H. Lorentz, George M. Ballentine, W. E. Scott, M. A. Levy and Sydney Samson, the latter from Canada.

Lee's Widow Wins Insurance Claim

ALBANY, Dec. 3.—The Court of Appeals here has unanimously upheld the lower courts, and granted the widow of Arthur Lee, former film executive, double indemnity against the Guardian Life Insurance Co. for his accidental death in the crash of a Clipper near Spain in 1942. The insurance company had offered to pay single, claiming that Lee, as a passenger, was not entitled to double insurance.

Fitelson and Mayers represented Lee's widow.

M-G-M TRADE SHOWINGS NEW DATE!

"MUSIC FOR MILLIONS"

NEW YORK—NEW JERSEY AND LOS ANGELES TERRITORIES ONLY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12th

NEW YORK { M-G-M SCREEN ROOM 630 9TH AVE. -- 10:30 A. M. & 2:30 P. M.

LOS ANGELES { AMBASSADOR THEATRE AMBASSADOR HOTEL -- 2:30 P. M.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 107 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1944 | TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE

President Asks 100 Leaders to 'Dimes' Confab

Calls Capital Meeting For Tuesday, Dec. 19

One hundred industry leaders have been asked to attend a conference at the White House, with President Roosevelt, Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 19. Under leadership of national chairman Nicholas M. Schenck, the meeting will be attended by the state chairmen and national executive committee of the motion picture 1945 March of Dimes campaign.

It is said that the President's re-

(*Continued on page* 10)

20th Opens Winter Convention Here

The first day of 20th Century-Fox's Mid-winter sales meeting, at the Astor Hotel, New York, got under way yesterday with Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales, presiding. Meetings will continue for a week.

Personal greetings to the division,

(*Continued on page* 10)

See Grierson Trip On Production Plan

TORONTO, Dec. 4.—John Grierson, manager of the National Film Board of Canada, is in Hollywood on business of an important nature, but his office in Ottawa stated today that his visit there was merely routine. However, there is a rumor that Grierson is following up his recent proposal for

(*Continued on page* 9)

100 Telecasters Now for Postwar

Television Broadcasters Associated predicted here yesterday that 100 television stations will be operating in at least 29 states just as soon as wartime restrictions on materials are relaxed

Three additional applications for television stations were filed with the FCC last week bringing the total number of commercial applications pending to 91.

Decree Date Set Dec. 20

Petition of the Department of Justice to modify the industry consent decree, and the application of Harry Arthur's St. Louis Amusement Co. to intervene in the proceedings, will be heard by Judge Henry W. Goddard in the New York Federal Court on either Dec. 19 or 20, with the latter date the more likely. Both were scheduled to be heard today—but Judge Goddard is engaged in another trial which will run the balance of the current week, necessitating a postponement of the industry cases.

John Caskey, of counsel for 20th Century-Fox, acted as spokesman for consenting companies at a conference yesterday with Judge Goddard, which resulted in the setting of the new hearing date. Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, requested the postponement, since on

(*Continued on page* 10)

National Conference Tribute to Willkie

J. Robert Rubin, Loew executive, chairman of the amusement division of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, yesterday presided at a luncheon at the Astor Hotel here with a committee of 30 and set preliminary plans for an industry-wide luncheon on Dec. 15 at the same hotel. It is planned to have several prominent speakers for the occasion, which will be a memorial tribute to the late Wendell Willkie.

At yesterday's luncheon were Will

(*Continued on page* 10)

Four from Lasky at A Million Apiece

Chicago, Dec. 4.—The new Jesse Lasky-Walter MacEwen producing company will make four $1,000,000 films during 1945, the producers jointly disclosed here during a stopover while en route to New York.

Lasky said one of his first productions will be based on the career of Mother Cabrini. PRC in Hollywood has a similar theme on its schedule.

Yule Shopping, Cold Cut N.Y. Grosses; 'St. Louis' Is Big

Early Christmas shopping and the cold spell is cutting some current grosses at New York first-runs. Outstanding of the new arrivals is "Meet Me in St. Louis," at the Astor, which brought a big $37,000 gross on the first seven days ending last night, despite the length of the picture, which is holding the house to one less show daily.

The Capitol, with "30 Seconds Over Tokyo" and a stage bill featuring Jimmy Dorsey and band and Henny Youngman, is headed for a good third week's gross of $70,000 on the basis of $45,000 taken in on the first four days; it will continue. Radio City Music Hall, with "Together Again" and a stage presentation, expects a light $100,000 on the second week on the basis of $65,000 taken in on the

(*Continued on page* 10)

Strike Closes 12 St. Louis Area Houses

Projectionists Act After Para. Exchange Walkout

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 4.—With seven more theatres in St. Louis and St. Louis County closing today, a total of twelve houses have now been darkened through the sympathetic action of projectionists following Friday's strike of 17 members of the AFL Film Exchange Employes' Locals B-1 and F-1 at the Paramount Film Distributing Co. branch here.

Meanwhile, Federal Judge Rubey M. Hulen has taken under advisement the injunction suit filed by the Kirkwood

(*Continued on page* 10)

4A's Support SAG In Extras' Vote

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—The American Federation of Labor's Associated Actors and Artistes of America (the 4A's) has thrown its support behind the Screen Actors Guild in the latter's contest with the Screen Players Union for the votes of extra players in a

(*Continued on page* 10)

Nominate MacLeish And Rockefeller

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4. — Nelson Rockefeller, Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, and Archibald MacLeish, Librarian of Congress, were today named as two of three Assistant Secretaries of State, nominated by President Roosevelt to assist Sec-

(*Continued on page* 10)

"Hollywood Canteen"

[*Warner Bros.*]

Hollywood, Dec. 4

SMASH! Sockeroo! Wow!

Showmen in a hurry don't have to know any more about "Hollywood Canteen." If they want to call it a day, they've read enough. But if they want to know why, here's why:

"Hollywood Canteen" tells the facts behind Hollywood's internationally known pride and joy: the place where the greats and near-greats do their stuff seven nights a week for the uniformed men of the United Nations. No one can compute how many millions know about the Canteen and, knowing about it, will want to see it.

Now, the fact this entertainment colossus is about the Canteen is one thing. It is entirely another that the facts never get in the way of the name-power which drives the dynamos or in the way of the mild, but pleasantly handled, romantic story which winds through and around the name acts.

Two soldiers are invalided home from the South Pacific. Robert Hutton's dream girl is Joan Leslie; Dane Clark's is practically any girl. They

(*Continued on Page* 7)

Nine Reviews Today

In addition to "Hollywood Canteen," reviewed in adjoining columns, today's issue carries reviews of the following: "The Falcon in Hollywood," page 7; "Nothing But Trouble," "My Gal Loves Music," "Cyclone Prairie Rangers" and "Trigger Law," page 8; and "End of the Road," "Swing in the Saddle" and "Army Wives," page 9.

Personal Mention

JACOB WILK, Warner Eastern production manager, has a new suite of offices at the North end of the home office building.

•

GEORGE A. HIRLIMAN, president of International Theatrical & Television Corp., will return from the Coast in a month. He will produce "Flamingo Road" on Broadway.

•

ROY HAINES, Warners' Western and Southern division sales manager, left last night to visit Midwest and Southern exchanges.

•

J. J. Donahue, Paramount Central division manager, will leave tomorrow for sales meetings in Cincinnati and Indianapolis.

•

PERRY SPENCER, Universal Southern publicity manager, has returned to Atlanta from New Orleans and Memphis.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount Western division manager, left yesterday for Kansas City and Des Moines.

•

SIGWART KUSIEL, Columbia Brazilian manager, arrived in New York over the weekend from Rio de Janiero.

•

MAURICE WHITE, general manager, and NICK SHAFER, of United Theatres, Cincinnati, are in New York.

•

ARTHUR C. BROMBERG, president of Monogram Southern exchanges, Atlanta, has left there for the Coast.

•

JACK V. SHEEHAN, Walt Disney Productions executive, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres executive, left last night for Boston.

•

VINCENTE MINELLI, M-G-M producer, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

JOHN K. JENKINS, president of Astor Pictures, Dallas, is visiting in Atlanta.

•

J. J. MALONEY, M-G-M Central division sales manager, is in Cleveland.

•

BERNARD GOODMAN, Warner assistant supervisor, is visiting Atlanta.

•

ARTHUR GREENBLATT, Monogram district manager, is in Cleveland.

•

JULES RIEFF, Columbia auditor, is in Cleveland.

Rathvon on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, arrived here today to organize the Coast for the forthcoming Red Cross "Movie Week," of which he is the national industry chairman.

Franchise Suit Set For Dec. 11 Trial

An application to examine Samuel Rinzler, circuit optrator, and Ray Moon, of 20th Century-Fox, before trial, has been taken under advisement by Justice Lloyd Church in New York Supreme Court, in connection with a suit by Leader Theatre Corp., operator of the Leader Theatre, Brooklyn, against 20th-Fox and the Randforce Circuit. Case has been marked for Dec. 11 trial.

Plaintiff charges Randforce with keeping its franchise for 20th-Fox product which it possessed on the Leader, prior to the theatre's sale to plaintiff, and shifting the franchise to another theatre in the Randforce circuit. Suit seeks to determine whether a franchise may be shifted from theatre to theatre.

British See Boycott In 'Fanny' Banning

LONDON, Dec. 4.—A storm of protest has broken here over the alleged banning of the Gainsborough production, "Fanny By Gaslight," by the M. P. Producers and Distributors of America. Some newspapers view in the move an American endeavor to boycott British films, and J. Arthur Rank, production executive, is indignant, describing "Fanny" as "a great moral lesson."

A London report that the Crown Film Unit's color production, "Western Approaches," had been banned by the MPPDA was denied here yesterday by the British Information Services, a BIS spokesman reporting that the film had not been submitted to the association.

Goldberg to Set Up Key City Offices

Jack Goldberg, president of Television Motion Pictures Co. here, reports that plans have been completed by his organization to open branches in key cities for the distribution of his company's product. Goldberg said that he did not expect to actually distribute until the post-war, but will install representatives in the various territories to handle preliminary work and establish contacts with local advertisers to whom the pictures will be leased for local telecasting.

Exchanges will open in January in Chicago, St. Louis, Los Angeles and Cleveland.

Zanuck to Broadcast From Nobel Dinner

The fourth American Nobel Anniversary dinner, to be held at the Hotel Astor on Sunday, will feature radio addresses on the contributions of motion pictures, radio and the press toward "Education for Peace in the Post-war World." Mutual will broadcast the speeches from 10:30 to 11 P.M.

Darryl F. Zanuck, vice president in charge of production, for 20th Century-Fox, will speak on influences of motion pictures.

Johnston Affirms Offer of MPPDA

Los Angeles, Dec. 4.—The *Los Angeles Examiner* yesterday in a Washington dispatch reported that when Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, was asked whether reports that he had been offered a high post in MPPDA were correct, Johnston replied: "Yes, it's true."

Reports within the industry for the past several months have been that Johnston is being sought for an important Hollywood or Washington post with MPPDA after his contract with the U. S. Chamber expires, next year.

DeMille's 'Flame' Is Out; Too Expensive

Production of "The Flame," as the next to be produced by Cecil B. De Mille, has been called off by DeMille and Paramount, the company announced here yesterday. "The reason for abandoning this subject was the tremendous cost that confronted De Mille Productions and the Paramount Studio in bringing the picture to the screen." Reported anticipated cost had been placed at $5,000,000. It was felt by DeMille and Paramount that the high cost involved would "not warrant continuance of the project," it was said.

Monogram Files with SEC for Preferred

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—Monogram Pictures Corp. filed today with the Securities and Exchange Commission a registration statement covering the proposed issuance and sale of 100,000 shares of 5½ per cent cumulative convertible preferred stock, $10 par value. Emanuel & Co., New York, is the principal underwriter.

The company would apply the proceeds to working capital, $300,000 earmarked for the reduction of current liabilities and the remainder for the production of low and medium-cost motion pictures.

Private Services for Mrs. A. Rothacker

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—Private funeral services were held at Forest Lawn today for Mrs. Aileen A. Rothacker, wife of Watterson Rothacker, vice-president of Quigley Publishing Co. on leave of absence to the Office of War Censorship, of which he is West Coast director, in Hollywood.

Mrs. Rothacker, who died Friday night after a long illness, is also survived by one daughter, Mrs. Eugene R. O'Neil; one brother, W. C. Aldous, and four grandchildren.

Rank May Use Lawrence

LONDON, Dec. 4.—Appointment of Jock Lawrence, West Coast publicist, to handle publicity for J. Arthur Rank's British films in the United States has been taken under advisement by Rank.

NEW YORK THEATRES

HELD OVER 3rd WEEK
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647
REPUBLIC THEATER
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
Irene DUNNE + Charles BOYER
'TOGETHER AGAIN'
with Charles Coburn
A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

NOW PLAYING AT MUSIC HALL
Extra! EXCLUSIVE AND TRUE!
THE NEW MARCH OF TIME
INSIDE CHINA TODAY

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ 11TH WEEK—RIVOLI ★
BROADWAY AND 49TH STREET

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
CARY GRANT
IN
"None But the Lonely Heart"
WITH
MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE
BARRY FITZGERALD

Alan Ladd ★ Loretta Young
in PARAMOUNT'S
"AND NOW TOMORROW"
In Person
GLEN GRAY
and the
Casa Loma Orchestra
ANDY RUSSELL
JERI SULIAVAN
SON & SONNY
WALLY BROWN and
ALAN CARNEY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

STATE
ON SCREEN
SPENCER TRACY
'THE SEVENTH CROSS'
IN PERSON
LANI McINTIRE
and ORCH.
ALLAN & HENRY CROSS & DUNN

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Community Shows To Support Houses

Described by its sponsors as the first national "better-films" movement to be undertaken since the beginning of World War II, the Cinema Guild has been formed here to operate, screenwise, on the same principles as the Book-of-the-Month Club in the publishing field.

The acting committee is composed of Dr. Frederick Thrasher of New York University and director of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Council; Samuel Gilburt of the film committees of both the National Education Association and the Association of English Teachers; Dean E. Fuller, counsel for the American Platform Guild; Mrs. W. W. Luman, chairman of the Scarsdale (N. Y.) Motion Picture Council, and Mrs. Hettie Dyrenfurth, film-making explorer. Lowell Thomas and Alfred Zala are listed among the honorary sponsors.

No Competition

The Guild proposes to establish units nationally for the showing of both selected entertainment films previously generally released and shorts on such topics as science, health politics, economics and foreign countries. Attempts will be made to build up sources of supply from as many foreign countries as possible, concentrating on product which ordinarily would not reach theatres. "There is no intention of competing with regular theatres, or distributors," according to the committee. Special children's programs will also be undertaken. Negotiations are understood to be in progress for a theatre in the Times Square area.

The Guild also proposes to back theatres, especially in remote places, by guaranteeing a "Book-of-the-Month"-pledged audience.

Enlist Exhibitors' Aid for Manpower

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Mayor Edward J. Kelly has delegated local exhibitors to spearhead a drive to send more men into war plants suffering acute manpower shortages.

During a meeting with the War Manpower Commission he told the committee to contact Jack Kirsch, president of Allied of Illinois, to pass word of the need to the 150 exhibitor members in this territory.

Coast Honors Dover

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—Over 100 industry leaders and stars will honor William B. Dover at the Beverly Hills Hotel tomorrow, at a luncheon for his service with the USO committee, and two years as USO Camp Shows coordinator in the European War Theatre. Among principal speakers will be Kenneth Thomson and Abe Lastfogel, head of USO Camp Shows.

Screen "Sleuth' Today

M-G-M's "Safety Sleuth," a short subject, will be screened this afternoon for representatives of the War Department's Safety Council, the Greater New York Safety Council and the New York Department of Health, as well as for Army and Navy officials at the M-G-M exchange here. It will be released in the "Pete Smith Specialty" series.

RKO Claims 1st Film Expressly for Video

"A new step in television programming," according to RKO Television Corp., will be inaugurated Monday evening, Dec. 11, when the first motion picture short made expressly for television will be telecast over station WABD, New York City, as part of a television demonstration at the banquet for the delegates to the first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association at the Hotel Commodore.

Running six and one-half minutes, the subject, entitled "Talk Fast, Mister," is based on an original by Clarence Buddington Kelland, and has a cast which includes Eddie Nugent, Royal Beal, Harvey Stephens, Raymond Greenleaf and Heather MacLea. It was produced by RKO Television for Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., Boston, at RKO Pathe studio here, under supervision of Thomas Hutchinson, production chief of RKO Television.

To Televise Show For TBA Conference

Thirty television receivers will be installed in the Hotel Commodore here next Monday evening to receive a special program of entertainment to be televised in connection with the banquet of the first annual conferences of the Television Broadcasters Association.

About 1,000 are expected at the banquet, which will highlight the first day's activities of the two-day conference.

TPA Demonstrates Films' Television Use

"What Part Will Films Play in Video" was discussed last night at a meeting of the Television Producers Association at the Hotel Des Artistes here.

John Flory, film producer, explained how stock film can be interwoven with "live" action to overcome "the static presentation of the average television show." Several demonstrations indicated how film can serve a television production.

Kirsch Calls for WAC Continuance

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Continuance of the industry's War Activities Committee in the postwar is urged here by Jack Kirsch, president of Allied of Illinois, who, citing the Wac as "one of the finest exhibitor-distributor organizations in the history of the industry," said that exhibitors and distributors can operate along the lines of WAC on a local scale as a clearing house for all trade problems.

Kirsch was honor guest of the local industry at a banquet at the Hotel Blackstone at the weekend.

Eyssell Hosts Minnelli

Vincente Minnelli, former scenic designer at Radio City Music Hall, now a film director in Hollywood, was the guest of G. S. Eyssell yesterday at a luncheon in the Music Hall's studio apartment. Among those attending were: Judy Garland, Arthur Freed, M-G-M producer, and Mrs. Freed, R. V. Downing, Fred L. Lynch, Leon Leonidoff, Russell Markert, Erno Rapee, Bruno Maine, Gene Snyder, Florence Rogge, Hattie Rogge and Willa Van of the Music Hall staff, all of whom were associates of Minnelli when he was at that theatre.

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January 15¢

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BY PAUL HESSE

See Over—for preview of Photoplay's 33 January features.

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Story Highlights

Christmas, 1944 ..... *Bing Crosby* 21
This Is the Truth About Jane and Ronnie ..... *Louella O. Parsons* 22
The Lady and the Corporal ..... *Pauline Swanson* 24
The man in the life of Bette Davis ..... *Elsa Maxwell* 26
I Predict ..... *Humphrey Bogart* 28
Medal from Hitler ..... *Helen Louise Walker* 30
Eyeful of Eythe ..... *Adele Rogers St. John* 32
Girl of the Moment—June Allyson ..... *Carole Landis* 36
Don't Marry a Stranger ..... *Maxine Arnold* 38
Keeping up with Gene Kelly ..... *Kate Holliday* 41
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That's Hollywood for You! ..... *Brian Donlevy* 44
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"What I Want for Christmas" ..... *Pvt. Lon McCallister* 48
My G. I. Dates ..... *Eleanor Harris* 50
Bergman in Brief ..... *Barbara Berch* 52
Charles Coburn—The Monocled Cupid ..... *Frank S. Nugent* 53
Barry Fitzgerald—The Shanghaied Irishman ..... *"Fearless"* 54
The Truth About Hollywood Housekeepers 56
What Should I Do? 58
Your problems answered by Claudette Colbert
Photoplay's Command Performance

THE LADY AND THE CORPORAL—The Photoplay story that scoops Hollywood.

Portraits in Color

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Lucille Ball 34
Diana Lynn 34
Irene Manning 34
Jane Wyman 34
Rosalind Russell 34
Alexis Smith 34
Hedy Lamarr 35
Ann Sothern 35
Gail Patrick 35
Kathryn Grayson 35
Ann Sheridan 35
Greer Garson 38
Gene Kelly 40

ELSA MAXWELL—Daring to predict what the stars will do next.

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The Shadow Stage 14
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ADELA ROGERS ST. JOHNS—continues her charming series on new faces.

Fred R. Sammis, Editorial Director
Elaine Osterman, Western Manager
Edmund Davenport, Art Director
Hymie Fink, Staff Photographer
Helen Gilmore, Editor
Adele Whitely Fletcher, Associate Editor
Sara Hamilton, Associate Editor
Ruth Waterbury, Contributing Editor

Cover: Ingrid Bergman, Natural Color Photograph by Paul Hesse
Miss Bergman's costume by Saks Fifth Avenue, Beverly Hills

FRANK S. NUGENT'S—adroit portrayal of the delightful old priest in "Going My Way."

SIDNEY SKOLSKY—The columnist who can write a biography in one word—writes 2186 in *"That's Hollywood For You."*

PHOTOPLAY *America's* FIRST *America's* OLDEST *America's* BEST

M. P. Charities May Become Nationwide

Committee consisting of Harry Brandt, Martin Smith, Barney Balaman, William Crockett and Charles Moskowitz, will report to Karl Hoblitzelle in January on its recommendations for a plan of organization and operation, whereby the Motion Picture Charities Fund will be expanded on a nationwide basis. Hoblitzelle, of the Texas Interstate circuit, is chairman of the fund, with Walter Vincent, president.

Fund executives, who met at the weekend, are also considering a plan to take over the Will Rogers Memorial Fund, it now being trustee of monies of the Rogers Memorial Hospital.

WB Checking Service Names 4 Supervisors

Appointment of four assistant supervisors, first such posts to be set up in Warners' film-checking organization, has been made by R. P. Hagen, manager of the service, who left New York yesterday for a two-week trip to make the installations.

New appointees are: Claude F. Frye, assistant to W. F. Harris in Charlotte; Ralph H. Cooper, working out of Jacksonville as assistant to P. A. Blankenship, Atlanta; Ralph F. Harrison, working out of McComb, Miss., assisting B. T. Burnside of Memphis, and C. Henry Watson, Oklahoma City, assistant to W. E. Rhoades of Dallas.

Screen 'Beachhead' For Press Tomorrow

A press screening of Warners' "Beachead to Berlin," two-reel color subject, sponsored by the U. S. Coast Guard, will be held at the company's home office tomorrow.

After the showing there will a reception at the Hotel Astor with Rear Admiral L. C. Covell, Comdr. Q. R. Walsh, Comdr. Jack Dempsey, Chief Photographer's Mate David Ruley and coxswain Gene Ruley, all of the Coast Guard, attending.

Berger in Charge of Pacific Film Units

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Samuel J. Berger, former theatre electrician here and now a chief warrant officer in the Navy, has been placed in charge of all motion picture units in the Pacific islands and on ships at sea in that area, he has informed Jack Kirsch, president of Illinois Allied.

Berger stated that he and his staff service 1,600 projector units.

'Celestials' Inaugural

"The Celestials," a new monthly luncheon club of men in the advertising, newspaper and magazine fields will hold is inaugural luncheon in the Waldorf-Astoria today, with James A. Farley as key speaker, and 300 scheduled to be present. Screen, stage, and radio stars are set to entertain.

Nizer Speaks on 'German

Louis Nizer, of the law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, participated in the weekly forum of the Brooklyn Jewish Center, last night, speaking on the topic of "What to Do With Germany."

"Hollywood Canteen"

(*Continued from page 1*)

reach Hollywood on leave, get to the Canteen, almost drop in their tracks as they see and meet Bette Davis, Barbara Stanwyck, Joan Crawford, Ida Lupino, etc. The shy and Jimmy Stewart-like Hutton meets Miss Leslie, gets kissed, falls in love and into luck as the millionth man to pass through the Canteen's portals. This rates him a hotel suite, a car and a weekend date with any actress in Hollywood. Of course, he selects Miss Leslie.

Meanwhile, the rough-diamond Clark—he's very good, by the way—is having his own adventures and troubles on the romantic side. He aims high, like Alexis Smith, but ends up with a girl who proves to be a Warner studio messenger, without sweater. The narrative framework indicates Miss Leslie has fallen for Hutton who thinks it may have been a publicity gag. As his train pulls out, however, she reaches the station for a clinch finish and a promise to await his return.

IT is a compliment to Alex Gottlieb, the producer, and to scenarist-director Delmar Davis that the blending of story and straight, unrelated numbers is so happily adroit. In an attraction of this kind, the idea is to sport talent in overwhelming profusion. The more talent, the less chance for story, and vice versa. One, of necessity, must constantly interrupt the other. Thus, there is inescapably some of this in "Hollywood Canteen," but there are less rough spots and correspondingly more smooth ones than in "Stage Door Canteen," of which this is obviously a counterpart with switches.

Seen and heard are these names, defying any marquee to carry them all:

Andrews Sisters, Jack Benny, Julie Bishop, Joe E. Brown, Eddie Cantor, Kitty Carlisle, Jack Carson, Joan Crawford, Helmut Dantine, Bette Davis, Faye Emerson, Victor Francen, John Garfield, Sydney Greenstreet, Alan Hale, Paul Henreid, Andrea King, Peter Lorre, Ida Lupino, Irene Manning, Joan McCracken, Dolores Moran, Dennis Morgan, Janis Paige, Eleanor Parker, William Prince, Joyce Reynolds, John Ridgely, Roy Rogers and Trigger, S. Z. Sakall, Zachary Scott, Sons of the Pioneers, Alexis Smith, Craig Stevens, Joseph Szigeti, Donald Woods, Jane Wyman, Jimmy Dorsey and Carmen Cavallaro and their orchestras, the Golden Gate Quartet and Rosario and Antonio.

Some sing. Some dance. Some act. Some are physically nothing more than walk-ons, but they're all in the film. Some have a few lines of dialogue and others bow out to return laer. It's a melange of talent and personalities, typifying what gives out actually at the Canteen but departing from the factual only in that the talent—naturally—is almost entirely Warner.

IT is inevitable some spots would be high and some not so high. The Jack Carson-Jane Wyman number is indifferent; so, too, is the Eddie Cantor-Nora Martin routine. The Andrews Sisters swing it well, the Golden Gate Quartet is very good, Miss Carlisle is in pleasing voice; Cavallaro and his rhumba orchestra are superb in their "Voodoo Moon" number. Rosario and Antonio are brilliant gypsy dancers. Joan McCracken, the dancing sprite out of "Oklahoma," is featured in an excellent modernistic ballet, conceived by Le Roy Prinz. She's worth anyone's money. Many will decide the highlight is that absurd combination of Joseph Szigeti, eminent violin virtuoso, and Jack Benny, who also owns a fiddle. Could be, too.

But, whether this highlight or another, the point is "Hollywood Canteen" is so wide in its entertainment sweep that the palate that cannot be requited will be a difficult palate to find. For this is a huge show, a monster attraction part of the proceeds of which will swell the Canteen treasury. Watch it go!

Running time, 123 minutes. "G."* Release, Dec. 30. RED KANN

"The Falcon in Hollywood"

(RKO Radio)

AN entertainment bonus which finds detective Tom Conway right at home on a thinly-disguised RKO set, where a murder obligingly occurs, with comedy apropos of the cop at the gate, a spectacle of shapely extras in dance costume. Too, there is satire on a temperamental director (Konstantin Shayne) and a visionary producer (John Abbott), who quotes Shakespeare to a bust of the bard himself.

The dialogue, in and out of blank verse, was written by Gerald Geraghty, who respects the mystery format even down to the tag-along girl (Veda Ann Borg in Yellow Cab cap) but who comes up with a crime motive that should keep the fans guessing while the finger of suspicion takes pan shots all about. It seems, though not until the finish, that Shakespeare's friend has sold no less than eight 25-per-cent shares in his picture and, to avoid paying off, sabotages its schedule by killing the leading man. But he doesn't fool the Falcon.

Barbara Hale, Jean Brooks and Rita Corday are decorative in support. Sheldon Leonard makes a capable gangster and Emory Parnell an appropriately incapable inspector. Maurice Geraghty handled the convenient production chore.

Running time, 67 minutes. "G"*. Release date not set.

TOM LOY

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Fox Negotiating

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—William Fox has arrived here from New York and is carrying on negotiations preparatory to returning to production in the Spring.

Columbia Signs Haggot

John Haggot, who directed the Broadway play, "The Streets are Guarded," has been signed to a term contract as dialogue director by Columbia.

Variety Award in Congress Records

A full report on the recent presentation of National Variety's annual Humanitarian Award to Cordell Hull has been written into the Congressional Record, 1944, according to word reaching here from Washington.

It contains a complete account of the ceremony, including the addresses of Senator Tom Connally, Justice James Byrnes, the letter of President Roosevelt to Variety and the response by Edward Stettinius.

St. Louis Variety Elects '45 Officers

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 4.—Following officers of Variety Tent No. 4 have been elected for 1945: Albert Stetson, chief barker; Louis K. Ansell, first assistant barker; Andy Dietz, second assistant chief barker; Joseph C. Ansell, dough guy, and Albert Wheeler, property master.

Elected to the crew were: Joseph C. Ansell, Louis K. Ansell, Andy Dietz, Tommy James, Paul Krueger, E. L. Murphy, M. L. Plessner, Barney Rosenthal, Matt Schulter, Albert Stetson and Albert Wheler. The five past chief barkers on the crew are: Tony Matreci, Harry C. Arthur, Jr., Harry Crawford, James Arthur and Herb Washburn.

Variety, in cooperation with the American Women's Voluntary Service, is operating a nursery at Union Station for wives and children of servicemen. Since its inception, 4,977 children have been cared for. Over $11,385,450 in "E" bonds have been sold since Pearl Harbor, representing 27,146 sales by Variety members.

Albany Variety Club Installs Ripps, Others

ALBANY, Dec. 4.—Herman Ripps, M-G-M manager here, has been installed as chief barker of the local Variety club, succeeding C. J. Latta, retiring chief, recently named a national director of Variety. Others installed were: Charles Smakwitz, Warner circuit, assistant chief barker; Harry Lamont, second assistant; James P. Faughnan, Warners, treasurer, and Richard D. Hayes, Paramount, secretary.

Omaha Elects Rubin

OMAHA, Dec. 4.—E. I. Rubin, Paramount salesman, has been reelected chief barker of local Variety. Other officers named were: Frank Hannon, first assistant; Harold Johnson, second assistant; Joe Jacobs, property master, and Mayer Stern, dough guy. The crew includes: Hymie Novitsky, William Barker, J. T. McBride, Charles Lieb, Don McLucas and Hank McGrath.

Cincinnati Elects Kinsler

CINCINNATI, Dec. 4.—Ralph Kinsler, manager of the Shard Circuit, has been named chief barker of local Variety. He succeeds Maurice White, general manager of United Theatres. Others named were Lev Bugie, first assistant chief barker; Harry Hartman, second assistant; Peter Niland, dough guy. Saul Greenberg was reelected property master and Allan S. Moritz was renamed national committeeman.

'Free Movie Day' for 150 Houses in Md.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 4.—More than 150 theatres in Maryland will observe 'Free Movie Day' on Thursday, Louis E. Shecter, state publicity chairman of the War Activities Committee, announced here today. Arrangements have been made by Frank Durkee, state WAC chairman for all residential theatres to admit theatregoers free, on Thursday, provided a War Bond is purchased. Durkee estimates that 450,000 seats will be available for bond purchasers. If 450,000 'E' bonds are bought, it is estimated that bond sales for the day should amount to $8,437,500.

Durkee promised $21,000,000 in bond sales if last Saturday's Army-Navy game would be moved to the Baltimore Stadium; actually the sale of tickets to the Army-Navy game resulted in more than $50,000,000 in bond sales, according to Ted R. Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department.

Northern Ohio Theatres Pledge 75 Premieres

CLEVELAND, Dec. 4.—Exhibitors in Northern Ohio have pledged 75 bond premiers for the Sixth War Loan, it was reported here by Morrison Orr, United Artists branch manager and Northern Ohio distributor chairman for the War Activities Committee.

Allied Jan. Meeting To Elect Officers

Allied States will hold its regular January meeting, at a date to be announced, in a Mid-Western city, at which time officers will be elected and plans made for 1945.

Usual Fall meeting has been omitted by the board because of the Sixth War Loan drive and because several subjects on the agenda were not ready.

Reid in Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—Don Reid, composer of "Remember Pearl Harbor," "Easter Sunday with You" and other popular songs, has arrived here where he will both sing on Jack Kirkwood's radio show and write songs for the screen.

CBS to Fete Murrow

Columbia Broadcasting will hold a press luncheon at the Hotel Ambassador here today for Edward R. Murrow, CBS European director, who arrived in New York from London at the weekend.

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Reviews

"Nothing but Trouble"

(M-G-M)

Hollywood, Dec. 4

AFTER a somewhat slow-winded start, this Laurel and Hardy comedy picks up pace and, under Sam Taylor's direction, sweeps on to a hilarious climax.

The screenplay, by Russell Rouse and Ray Golden, introduces the two comedians as a cook and a butler employed by Mary Boland as Mrs. Hawkley, a middle-class matron with social aspirations. The setup is a natural for the slapstick talents of the two, and a sequence in which they attempt to steal a horsemeat steak from a large and vociferous lion is particularly funny. By a series of circumstances which seem credible enough on the screen, Laurel and Hardy befriend the boy king of a Balkan country, unaware of his royal descent. The lad's uncle, played with suave villainy by Philip Merivale, plots his death. The bumbling interference of the two comics causes the murder to misfire, and the finish sees the boy king safe, with Stan and Ollie ensconced as his servitors.

The surprise of the picture is the performance of David Leland as the young king. A lad of singular charm, he lends a touch of pathos to the proceedings and succeeds in raising the level of the picture well above the usual custard-pie standards. The film was produced by B. F. Zeidman.

Running time, 70 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

THALIA BELL

"My Gal Loves Music"

(Universal)

Hollywood, Dec. 4

A DIVERTING story keeps this picture rolling from start to finish. Grace McDonald steals the show in a dual role: that of a night-club singer who pretends to be a child prodigy in order to win a place in radio. It is hard to say in which role she is most attractive; she handles both with ease and charm.

Eugene Conrad's screenplay, from an original by Patricia Harper, presents Miss McDonald, Betty Kean and Walter Catlett as members of a traveling medicine show stranded in a small town in the Midwest. The local magnate, who manufactures vitamins, is sponsoring a contest to discover a child prodigy for his radio program. Disguised as a 14-year-old, Miss McDonald wins the contest, and then finds herself in plenty of trouble trying to maintain her role and at the same time win the heart of Bob Crosby, cast as a singer on the same program. Edward Lilley, who produced and directed, deserves credit for the pace and interest of this moderate-budget offering.

Running time, 63 minutes. "G."* Release date, Dec. 15.

T. B.

"Cyclone Prairie Rangers"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Dec. 4

UNLIKE most Westerns this one takes place, according to one of the players, in 1943. The villains, who are engaged in the usual cattle-rustling, are led by a Nazi agent, and their enterprises are directed toward impeding the war effort by sabotaging the nation's food supply. Elizabeth Beecher is credited with the story and screenplay.

It is good material for Charles Starrett and his side-kick, Dub Taylor. Jimmy Wakely and his Saddle Pals don't fit into it so well. Several of the songs are rendered by Jimmy Davis, now Governor of Louisiana. Constance Worth handles the role of the pretty Nazi spy deftly, Robert Fiske, as the Nazi leader, adds an excellent characterization.

Jack Fier produced and Benjamin Kline directed this feature, which stacks up as a better-than-ordinary Western.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

T. B.

"Trigger Law"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Dec. 4

THERE is plenty of hard riding in this Bob Steele-Hoot Gibson vehicle, but not much else. The usual fist fights and gunplay are missing, and the picture lacks action values accordingly.

Victor Hammond's story is muddled, even by formula standards. No reason is ever given for the disagreement between the ranchers and the villains, nor any motive for the two murders in the plot. Bob Steele, searching for the man who killed his father, becomes involved in the ranchers' affairs. He makes several speeches which, while edifying in tone, add little to the action.

Beatrice Grey, Ralph Lewis, Ed Casside, George Morell, and Bud Osborne are in the supporting cast. Terry Frost, Jack Ingram and George Eldridge constitute the trio of villains.

Lindsley Parsons produced and Vernon Keays directed. Marcel LePicard's photography is not up to standard.

Running time, 54 minutes: "G." Release date, Sept. 30.

T. B.

"G" denotes general classification.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 4

DICK FORAN has been selected to round out the cast of "Guest Wife," which stars Claudette Colbert and Don Ameche. The picture is being made by the independent company composed of Jack Skirball and Bruce Manning, for United Artists release . . . 20th Century-Fox has exercised its option on services of Virginia Walker and Trudy Marshall . . . Under a new agreement with Republic, Leonard Sillman will produce one of his "New Faces" revues each year for the next seven years.

•

John Hodiak will be teamed with Marian Bell in a musical titled "The Kissing Bandit," based on an idea by Joseph Pasternak, who will produce . . . Will Jason has been assigned to direct "Ten Cents a Dance," and Oscar Boetticher to do "Out of the Fog," both scheduled for early production at Universal . . . Wilton Graff has been added to the cast of Republic's "Earl Carroll Vanities."

•

Emmett Lynn has been signed for a role in MGM's "Harvey Girls" . . . Production of "The Flame," which had been planned as C. B. DeMille's next for Paramount, has been called off because of the "tremendous cost of the project."

•

Nine productions are in the cutting rooms at PRC, including "Crime, Inc." and "Strange Illusion," both produced by Leon Fromkess . . . Producer James Burkett has signed Eddie Norris and Russell Simpson for important parts in "Tugboat Annie's Son," which he will make for Republic release . . . Gloria Jean and Kirby Grant will be teamed once more in Universal's "Easy to Look At." Ford Beebe will produce.

•

"Captain of Castille," by Samuel Shellabarger, has been purchased by 20th Century-Fox. The book, still unpublished, is the Literary Guild selection for January . . . Tala Birell is set for a featured role in "Until Tomorrow," the next "Whistler" production at Columbia . . . "A Letter for Evie," Saturday Evening Post story by Blanche Brace, has been purchased by MGM for production by William Wright.

•

Walter Lang has been signed to a new long-term directorial contract by 20th Century-Fox . . . Albert Dekker has been signed by Paramount for a role in "Good Intentions," which stars Eddie Bracken and Veronica Lake . . . Tom Drake has been assigned the romantic lead in MGM's "Hold High the Torch."

Music Hall Yule Show

M-G-M's "National Velvet" will open Dec. 14 at Radio City Music Hall, here, with that theatre's annual Christmas Show. The traditional pageant, "The Nativity," said to have been witnessed by 4,000,000 since it was established as an annual event, will be co-featured. Also on the stage will be a 'circus spectacle,' "Star Bright," produced by Leon Leonidoff.

Eight Features Finished, Nine Start on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—The production index rose to 45 in a quiet week which saw eight features completed and nine others started. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal," "Leave It to Blondie."

Started: "Rockin' on the Rockies," with Mary Beth Hughes, Jay Kirby and Tim Ryan.

Shooting: "A Thousand and One Nights," "One Against Seven," "Men of the Deep."

M-G-M

Started: "Twice Blessed," with Lee and Lyn Wilde, James Craig, Gail Patrick, Jean Porter, James Lydon, Marshall Thompson, Arthur Walsh, Ethel Smith; "The Hidden Eye," with Edward Arnold, Frances Rafferty, Paul Langton, "Friday."

Shooting: "Alter Ego," "Weekend at the Waldorf," "Without Love," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Hold High the Torch," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Finished: "Make Way for Kelly."

Shooting: "The Model Murder" (formerly "Fashion Model").

Paramount

Finished: "Scared Stiff."

Started: "Good Intentions," with Eddie Bracken, Veronica Lake, Howard da Silva, George Zucco, Willie Best, Donald MacBride, Ralph Peters, Edward Fielding.

Shooting: "The Virginian," "The Lost Weekend," "The Love Letters," "The Affairs of Susan," "Duffy's Tavern."

PRC

Finished: "Barber of Red Gap."

RKO Radio

Started: "Johnny Angel," with George Raft, Signe Hasso, Claire Trevor, Virginia Belmont, Lowell Gilmore; "Follow Your Heart," with Jack Haley, Marcia McGuire, Anne Jeffreys.

Shooting: "The Spanish Main," "Invisible Army," "The Enchanted Cottage," "Along Came Jones" (International).

Republic

Started: "Utah," with Roy Rogers, George 'Gabby' Hayes, Dale Evans, Peggy Stewart and the Sons of the Pioneers.

Shooting: "Behind the Ships," "Lone Texas Ranger," "Earl Carroll Vanities," "Johnny March" (Walter Colmes).

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Circumstantial Evidence," "A Royal Scandal."

Shooting: "First, Last and Always," "The Bullfighters," "A Bell for Adano," "Molly, Bless Her."

United Artists

Started: "Guest Wife" (Skirball-Manning) with Claudette Colbert, Don Ameche.

Shooting: "G. I. Joe" (Cowan); "A Walk in the Sun" (Bronston); "Blood on the Sun" (Cagney); "Bedside Manner" (Stone).

Universal

Finished: "Romance, Incorporated."

Started: "I'll Tell the World," with Lee Tracy, Brenda Joyce, June Preisser, Raymond Walburn.

Shooting: "Salome — Where She Danced," "Here Come the Co-Eds."

Warners

Shooting: "Hotel Berlin," "The Big Sleep," "San Antonio."

Reviews

"End of the Road"

(Republic)

REPUBLIC again dips into its apparently abundant supply of crime stories, and again the solution is evolved through exploration of devious and dubious channels of psychology. In this, the murderer is revealed before the first reel is half run, but the audience can do its nail-chewing while the sleuth, an enterprising mystery writer, played by Edward Norris, attempts to trap his man, John Abbott, into a confession.

When all methods fail and time is growing short for the innocent man condemned to die for Abbott's crime, Norris tells Abbott, now broke, jobless and relying on him for support, that he must leave town because he (Norris) is wanted for another murder. Abbott, desperate, pleads to be taken along, finally admitting his guilt and telling his story to Norris and, unknowing, to several dictaphones hidden in the room. Norris, whose own "wanted" story was faked, earns himself a reputation and the innocent man is released.

The script, written by Denison Clift and Gertrude Walker, from Alva Johnston's *New Yorker* story, was written with emphasis on the unusual and while the situations seldom approach any degree of credibility, the story appears to have a firm grip for audience interest from the very start. Norris and Abbott handled their roles with competence, under the capable direction of George Blair, who also produced. A good supporting cast includes June Storey and Jonathan Hale.

Running time, 51 minutes. "G."* Release date, Nov. 10.

HELEN MCNAMARA

"Swing in the Saddle"

(Columbia)

PRODUCER Jack Fier did not miss much in the line of Western entertainment when he whipped this one up for Columbia's 'special' Western series. Devotees of hillbilly music will also get a delightful hour from radio's 'Hoosier Hotshots,' together with Jimmy Wakeley and His Oklahoma Cowboys, the King Cole Trio and 'Cousin Emmy.' 'Red River' Dave and Jane Frazee, who would seem more at home in a helicopter than she does on a horse, provide the love interest and Mary Treen and Slim Summerville go through a slapstick routine bound to please lovers of robust comedy. The story, which is only incidental, provides a satisfactory excuse for members of the talent array to go into their respective routines at regular intervals.

The Misses Treen and Frazee arrive at a ranch seeking a mythical 'Northrup Bayliss' who had promised to marry Miss Treen via a Lonely Hearts Club. Red River Dave is foreman of the ranch and has troubles of his own with rival rancher Guinn Williams. Eventually he falls in love with Miss Frazee who, with her partner, is working for her 'keep,' in the kitchen. Miss Frazee saves the day when she sings with Wakeley's boys at the annual ranch music competition and wins the contest for Red River Dave over Williams' Hoosier Hotshots.

Lew Landers directed from a screen play by Elizabeth Beecher, Morton Grant and Bradford Ropes, based on Maurice Leo's story.

Running time, 69 minutes. "G."*

H. M.

"Army Wives"

(Monogram)

THE problem of marriage plans put asunder by a groom's inability to find time for the ceremony is the springboard from which Monogram plunges into nearly every conceivable 'problem' of Americans in America in wartime. The fact that Elyse Knox follows her soldier-sweetheart, Rick Vallin, from camp to camp in the hope he will get a furlough to marry her, provides the backdrop and from there on—the housing problem and the labor shortage alternate in top position in the action. Parts of "Army Wives" are hilarious, frequently overshadowing the pathos and drama intended for other parts.

When Miss Knox meets Marjorie Rambeau, a veteran Army wife and an old hand at the 'Army game'—with a brood of six to prove it, the situation brightens considerably. When Miss Rambeau introduces Miss Knox to the General's wife, who, in turn, speaks to the General in behalf of the unhappy couple, the marriage becomes a reality, although by that time the audience can not be blamed for abandoning all hope for the pair.

As light romantic comedy "Army Wives" is successful. Script was by B. Harrison Orkow, based on an idea by Sgt. Joel Levy, Jr. Dialogue is considerably above par, and the cast is highly competent. Phil Rosen directed; Lindsley Parsons produced; Trem Carr was executive director.

Running time, 67 minutes. "G"* Release date, Jan. 12.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

H. M.

Fire Destroys Madison

CINCINNATI, Dec. 4.—Fire completely destroyed the Madison Theatre in nearby Covington, Ky. Loss, covered by insurance, was estimated at $150,000. The house, previously the L. B. Wilson Theatre, was owned by Ernest Realty Co. which also operates the Broadway and Liberty in Covington.

See Grierson Trip On Production Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

production of Canadian features in California under NFB auspices to offset any suggestion otherwise for the establishment of a 'Hollywood' in the Dominion, and the guess is that he may be opening conversations with producers on this objective.

The name of John Farrow, Paramount director who spent some time in Ottawa in the role of historian for the Royal Canadian Navy early in the war, is linked with the reported move for Canadian feature production in California, which is said to have the backing of unnamed members of the Canadian Parliament.

Recently Grierson came out with the declaration that more practical and possible than the dream of a Canadian 'Hollywood' would be the making of features by Canada in the U. S., suggesting the creation of a company for this purpose, with an associate producership in one of the big international companies there. He said:

"There would be nothing to prevent a program of four to six Canadian films a year and the building up of a team of actors and writers drawn largely from Canada." Grierson said American interests must appreciate international obligations and give a *quid pro quo* for benefits they receive abroad, adding that the film industry takes $9,000,000 yearly from the Canadian market.

Only 'Creek' Scores, Getting Nice $8,000

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Pre-Christmas shopping is playing hob with box-office grosses. About the only above-average figure estimated for the week will be scored by "Frenchman's Creek" at Warner's Columbia where, in its third downtown week, it stands to reach an approximate $8,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 7 are:

"Three Is a Family" (UA)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Gay Nineties Revue. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,200).

"Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00), 7 days. 2nd downtown week. On stage: Rolly Rolls. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,700).

"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. Average: $13,600).

"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,200).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $19,000).

Flinn Pays Tribute To War Activities

Retiring as coordinator of the Hollywood division of the War Activities Committee, John C. Flinn visiting here from Hollywood has paid tribute to the members of the WAC in New York. Flinn is being succeeded by Tom W. Baily of the California Theatres Council as Coast coordinator. He will remain as a member of the executive committee of the Hollywood division.

Yule Shopping, Cold Cut N.Y. Grosses; 'St. Louis' Is Big

(Continued from page 1)

first four days ending Sunday night. The combination will continue for a third and final week before making way for "National Velvet," on Dec. 14. A moderate $24,500 is expected for the first week of "Bowery to Broadway" at the Criterion.

A quiet $65,000 is expected at the Roxy on the first week of "Something for the Boys" and a stage show presenting Pearl Primus, Jimmy Savo and Mildred Baily. The combination will continue until Dec. 19 before making way for "Winged Victory." "And Now Tomorrow" with a stage show featuring Glen Gray and his band, is expected to bring the Paramount a good $75,000 on a second week; that combination will also continue.

$21,000 for "Heart"

The third week of "None But the Lonely Heart" will bring the Palace about $21,000, which is still satisfactory and the film will continue. "To Have and Have Not" continues to do good business at the Hollywood, with $22,500 expected for the eighth week. A quiet $35,000 is expected for the third week of "The Very Thought of You" and a stage show presenting Abe Lyman and band at the Strand. "Hollywood Canteen" will follow Dec. 15.

The 11th week of "Frenchman's Creek" is expected to bring the Rivoli about $25,000. "Dark Waters" is continuing big at the Globe with $21,000 expected for the second week. A moderate $8,000 is expected for the seventh week of "Summer Storm" at the Gotham. "Brazil" will bring a mild $5,500 in its third week at the Republic, but will continue.

"Enter Arsene Lupin" is headed for a moderate $7,500 for the first week at the Rialto and will make way for "The Falcon in Hollywood" on Friday. "Wilson" will bring a slow $5,000 for an 11th week at the Victoria with the end of the run here now set back to Dec. 19.

20th Opens Winter Convention Here

(Continued from page 1)

district and branch managers were delivered by Spyros P. Skouras, president, who will also speak later, and by Connors, William C. Gehring, Western sales manager; A. W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales manager; L. J. Schlaifer, Central sales manager; Murray Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, and Hal Horne, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation.

A brief report on films already released was made by Connors, and after lunch the field forces saw "Winged Victory" and were then taken to Jersey City for a preview of "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier." Discussions on these, and forthcoming 20th-Fox product are scheduled for today and tomorrow.

Lester Sturm, 20th Detroit Mgr., Dies

DETROIT, Dec. 4.—Lester Sturm manager of the 20th Century-Fox Detroit exchange, died here this morning. He had been with the company for almost 25 years.

President Calls Capital 'Dimes' Meeting for Dec. 19

(Continued from page 1)

quest to the "Dimes" film leaders sets a precedent, signalizing a new high mark in official appreciation of the industry's patriotic and humanitarian efforts.

President Roosevelt will be given an outline of the industry's plans for the 1945 drive (Jan. 25-31) and he is expected to emphasize to chairman Schenck and his committee heads how important the motion picture effort is in continuing the fight on infantile paralysis.

Never before has so large a group of film men involved in a drive been guests at the White House. The President recently told Schenck that he wanted to meet the group of men who lead in this effort.

Follows Luncheon

The visit to the White House will follow a luncheon and campaign business meeting in the Hotel Statler, Washington, with "Dimes" leaders from 48 states present. Oscar A. Doob and Ernest Emerling, campaign promotion directors, returned to New York yesterday from Washington after completing plans with District of Columbia chairman Carter Barron for the Dec. 19 gathering.

Executive committee members, with Schenck, who will go to Washington, include: Barney Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, Harry Brandt, Tom Connors, Doob, Emerling, Gus Eyssell, S. H. Fabian, Leonard Goldenson, Harry Kalmine, Malcolm Kingsburg, C. C. Moskowitz, Herman Robbins, Spyros Skouras, Walter Vincent, Joseph R. Vogel, Richard Walsh.

State chairmen expected at the Washington conference are:

R. M. Kennedy, R. B. Wilby, Alabama; M. A. Lightman, Arkansas; Harry Nace, Arizona; Charles Skouras, Robert H. Poole, George Mann, Albert Law, California; Rick Ricketson, Colorado; I. J. Hoffman, Connecticut; A. Joseph DeFiore, Delaware; Carter Barron, John J. Payette, District of Columbia; M. C. Talley, Florida; J. H. Thompson, Hugh G. Martin, Georgia; I. H. Harris, Idaho; Jack Kirsch, Maurice M. Rubens, Illinois; Harry Katz, K. T. Collins, Indiana; A. H. Blank, Iowa-Nebraska; Fred J. Dolle, Kentucky; Elmer C. Rhoden, Kansas; Rodney Toups, Louisiana; M. J. Mullin, Sam Pinanski, New England.

Also: John B. Carroll, Maine; Frank Hornig, Maryland; Edward Cuddy, Massachusetts; J. O. Brooks, Paul Schlossman, Michigan; W. H. Workman, W. C. Sears, Minnesota; Arthur Lehman, Mississippi; Harry C. Arthur, Missouri; A. M. Russell, Montana; N. Dow Thompson, Nevada; Melvin Morrison, New Hampshire; Walter Reade, Frank Damis, New Jersey; Milas L. Hurley, New Mexico; Fred Schwartz, Samuel Rinzler, J. Myer Schine, Max Yellen, New York; Rovy F. Brannon, North Carolina; M. C. Cooper, North Dakota; P. J. Wood, Ohio; L. C. Griffith, Oklahoma; Albert J. Finke, Oregon.

Others Invited

Also: Ted Schlanger, Sidney Samuelson, Moe Silver, Pennsylvania; E. M. Fay, Rhode Island; Warren Irvin, South Carolina; Charles Klein, South Dakota; R. J. O'Donnell, Karl Hoblitzelle, Julius Gordon, Texas; Tony Sudekum, Tennessee; John Rugar, Utah; Frank Vennett, Vermont; W. F. Crockett, Virginia; Frank Newman, Sr., Washington; Milton Levine, West Virginia; H. J. Fitzgerald, Wisconsin; E. J. Schulte, Wyoming; Robert J. Peratrovich, Jr., Alaska; Marvin A. Eder, Canal Zone; Ezra Parker, Hawaii; Ned S. Seckler, Puerto Rico.

4A's Support SAG In Extras' Vote

(Continued from page 1)

National Labor Relations Board election to be held here on Dec. 17.

In telegrams read to Class B members of SAG at their annual meeting, a wire from William Green, AFL president, said, "The AFL affirms the jurisdiction of the 4A's over performers and entertainers. No other union has authority to grant a charter which would infringe upon this jurisdiction.

A statement from the 4A's international board said, "We will not entertain a petition from any newly created organization for a charter."

SAG officers were told that the extras' guild has decided that should a majority of the extras vote to remain with the Guild, the SAG plans to set up an autonomous organization within the 4A's regardless of the outcome of the election.

Nettleford, 74, Dies

LONDON, Dec. 4.—Archibald Nettleford, 74, film and theatre producer, died here at the weekend. Nettleford, who often acted in his own productions under the name of R. Chee, owned film studios here.

National Conference Tribute to Willkie

(Continued from page 1)

Hays, Spyros Skouras, William F. Rodgers, Ned E. Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Herman Robbins, Harry Brandt, Sam Rosen, Albert Senft, Ed Churchill, Abe Schneider, Jules Brulatour, Bert Nayfack, Walter Vincent, John J. O'Connor, David Weinstock, Arthur Israel, Ralph Poucher, Dr. Clinchy, Brock Pemberton, Jake Starr, Thomas Robinson, Mike Rosen, Nate Springold, Charles E. Lewis, Dr. Phillip C. King, Pincus Sober, Leo Brecher, David A. Ross, William E. McKee and M. Stark.

The December 15th luncheon will be a memorial tribute to the late Wendell L. Willkie.

Court to Set Dec. 20 Consent Decree Date

(Continued from page 1)

Dec. 15 he is to turn in briefs on the Schine case in Buffalo. Nov. 19 is a regular motion day of the Federal Court, so a hearing on the following day is regarded as more likely. Procedure now will be to have Judge William Bondy, sitting today in motion part, refer the case to Goddard, who in turn will set the final date for the hearing.

Strike Closes Twelve St. Louis Houses

(Continued from page 1)

Amusement Co. to force three film distributing agencies to provide the pictures stipulated in their contracts.

The strike was called in an effort to force to Ozark Theatre in Webster Groves and the Osage and Kirkwood in Kirkwood to hire union operators and stagehands. Attorneys for the unions say it is "a joint effort of the sister unions to apply economic pressure to settle a dispute of long standing." Union employes are continuing to deliver Paramount films for camps, war bond use and charity.

Theatres closing today included the Capital in downtown St. Louis and the Congress, Aubert, Lafayette, Maffitt, Shaw and Yale. Five local neighborhood houses closed Saturday: the Gravios, Kingsland, Powhattan, Victory and Aubert. Three others changed to programs excluding Paramount pictures and continued to operate. The strike threatens to affect Paramount deliveries in Eastern Missouri and parts of Illinois, Kentucky and Arkansas.

In Federal District Court here today, Judge Hulen permitted the Kirkwood company to amend its petition to eliminate a doubt as to Federal jurisdiction in the original suit. Counsel for both sides submitted briefs. Attorneys for the distributors contended there should be no suit since their contracts provide for liquidated damages in the event of non-delivery of films.

Approximately 30 office employes at Paramount are also on strike in a move of sympathy with the exchange employes.

Nominate MacLeish And Rockefeller

(Continued from page 1)

retary Edward L. Stettinius to prepare actively for the enlarged responsibilities which the State Department will have in the post war era.

MacLeish will be in charge of public and cultural relations and Rockefeller will direct the Department's inter-American activities. The shifting of Rockefeller from the CIAA to the State Department was seen as presaging the early liquidation of the former and, in sending the nominations to the Senate, the President said the Coordinator would continue to direct the CIAA "during the time necessary to integrate the programs of the office into the permanent structure of the Government" and terminate its purely wartime operations.

The move is in line with plans of the Department, long since drawn, to take over eventually such activities of the Rockefeller office as fitted into its long-term program of operations after the end of the war.

The third appointment was that of William L. Clayton, former surplus property disposal chief, to be in charge of foreign economic affairs.

Herschman, 50, Dies

Arthur Herschman, 50, with the M-G-M advertising department for the last 20 years, died here over the weekend. Herschman, who also had financial interests in "The Searching Wind" and other Herman Shumlin productions, is survived by two sisters and a brother.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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Independent Filming to Rise: Lasky

Sees Decrease in Full Company Production

"The day of the independent producer has arrived, and from now on the industry will see less of full company production and more of independent producers, releasing through majors," Jesse L. Lasky told MOTION PICTURE DAILY here yesterday. Lasky reminded that 31 years ago he founded the forerunner of Paramount, adding: "And I have

(*Continued on Page 7*)

Rank Plans Wide Canadian Expansion

LONDON, Dec. 5.—Stating that Canada is destined to become a 'home' for British pictures, J. Arthur Rank and John H. Davis, managing director of Rank's British Odeon Theatres, both expressed enthusiasm here today over the Dominion's exhibition potentialities.

Davis, recently returned from America, where he closed a deal with Odeon Theatres of Canada, reiterated that it involves a partnership, not ownership, and announced the intention of the combine to build a 2,500-seat house in Toronto, to acquire a circuit of eight houses in Montreal and to purchase sites throughout Canada for future building.

Warner Discusses Educational Films

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., left for New York today following two days of conferences here with high government and military officials on educational film programs. Among those with whom Warner conferred were: Judge Samuel Rosenman, special counsel to President Roosevelt; former Ambassador Joseph E. Davies, chairman of the President's War Relief Control Board; high officials of the War and Navy Departments, and others.

The conferences concerned the use made of educational films by the military services during the war and the possible projection of those and other uses into the future.

'U' Meeting Here Friday

A three-day Universal sales conference, first to be held by the company since the annual sales meeting in Los Angeles, last June, will start here Friday at the Astor Hotel, with William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager presiding, and all sales executives and district managers attending.

William A. Scully

Among those present will be: N. J. Blumberg, president; E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager; Fred

(*Continued on page 6*)

Feature Backlog of 130 Hits Reissues

An industry backlog of 130 films waiting for release, or playing time in key city runs is nullifying, to a large extent, prospects of reissues securing any first-run playing, according to Budd Rogers, Eastern representative for Charles R. Rogers, who recently returned from the Coast where he inspected forthcoming product. Charles Rogers, who releases through United Artists, has finished "Delightfully Dangerous," and has scheduled

(*Continued on Page 7*)

Strike Vote Jan. 2 By Set Designers

Hollywood, Dec. 5.—Set Designers, Illustrators and Decorators Local No. 1421 will take a strike vote Jan. 2 unless a settlement of its demand for recognition by the producers is reached before then, according to a notification served upon the National Labor Relations Board, the War Labor Board and the Department of Labor, under the Smith-Connally Act.

Connors Tells Of Product

Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, reported on forthcoming product yesterday, the second day of the company's mid-Winter sales meeting at the Hotel Astor here. He discussed such pictures as "Hangover Square," "Diamond Horseshoe," "Winged Victory" and "The Fighting Lady," a feature-length documentary made by the U. S. Navy, which 20th-Fox will distribute. Con-

Tom Connors

(*Continued on page 6*)

Industry Commitments Are Near Filled for the 6th

The industry is rapidly nearing the goal of its commitments in the Sixth War Loan drive and will fulfill all made to Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., it was reported here yesterday by the WAC's national drive committee.

At a meeting with the Secretary, Harry Brandt, national industry chairman, pledged for the committee that the industry would surpass all records in securing new issuing agents, Bond Premieres, Children's Matinees, and national "Free Movie Day," which will be observed tomorrow, Pearl Harbor Day.

During the Fifth War Loan drive

(*Continued on Page 7*)

USO's 85,000,000 3-Year Audience

USO-Camp Shows reaches its third anniversary with 173 show units (837 performers) currently playing to American servicemen overseas.

Since its inception, in 1941, at the request of Washington military authorities, USO has played to a 85,000,000 servicemen's audience, sending 383 units over the 'foxhole circuit', and 72 units to servicemen in the U. S.

RKO, Republic Hit by Strike In St. Louis

14 More Theatres Are Faced With Closing

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 5.—Fourteen more theatres are threatened with closing as the strike of film distributing employes spread today from Paramount to RKO and Republic. A first-run theatre, the Missouri, has closed and Fanchon & Marco have put all employes at other houses on a day-to-day basis. Fifteen theatres were dark last night.

A stipulation was filed in Federal Court here today between the Kirkwood Theatre, one of the three county houses over which the strike was

(*Continued on page 6*)

Freeman Continues As Head of AMPP

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Y. Frank Freeman of Paramount, who had declined his reelection to the presidency of the Association of Motion Picture Producers after serving several terms, today reassumed that post by unanimous request of the board of directors and presided at a meeting of the association here. It was explained that this was not an election, which cannot take place until the annual meeting

(*Continued on Page 7*)

Postwar Films Pacts Held in Jeopardy

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Fate of the administration's planned international agreement on the post-war motion picture trade was seen today as hanging on the ability of the State Department to overcome objections of Senate leaders to the Anglo-American oil agreement.

In a formal current statement, Senator Tom Connally of

(*Continued on Page 7*)

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "National Velvet" and "Farewell, My Lovely" appear on page 4; "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" and "Experiment Perilous," on page 6.

Murrow Says Europe Curbs Will Remain

There is no reason to believe that the liberated countries of Western Europe, including France, Belgium and Holland, will alter their basic domestic policies as they affect American industries, including motion pictures, either now or in the postwar, out of gratitude toward the United States or Great Britain, Edward R. Murrow, European director of Columbia Broadcasting, indicated at a press luncheon at the Hotel Ambassador here yesterday. Morrow recently arrived in New York from London.

Notes Resentment

He warned that there is considerable resentment among the American Armed Forces in the European theatre of war against discussions here of plans for "V-E" Day celebrations. They feel that celebrations should be postponed until the war is over both in Europe and in the Far East and they do not see any early possibility of this, Murrow declared.

About 200 representatives of the press heard Murrow's observations on the current political, economic and social outlook in Europe today. Paul White, CBS news director, introduced Murrow with remarks about his own trip to Pearl Harbor. Also seated on the dais were Quincy Howe, Bill Slocum, Douglas Edwards and George Crandell, CBS publicity head.

Walker Honor Guest Of Pioneers Dec. 13

Frank H. Walker, Postmaster General, will be an honor guest at the Picture Pioneers Christmas dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria, Wednesday evening, Dec. 13, according to an announcement here yesterday by Sam and George Dembow, co-chairmen of the dinner committee.

Fifty-one applications for membership will make the "Class of 1945" the largest to be inducted in the five years the Picture Pioneers have been in existence, according to Jack Cohn, house manager of the organization.

N. Y. Will Get Next 'Thumper' Charter

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—The Tub Thumpers of America, organized here last week with Harry Browning as chief tub thumper, is understood to have received several applications for charters from other cities. Tub No. 2 will probably be installed in New York. Browning will arrange for the organization and installation of the new chapter.

Fazalbhoy to See Press

M. Akbar Fazalbhoy, managing director of RCA Photophone Equipments, Ltd., Bombay, India, will meet the press here tomorrow in the Hotel Commodore. Fazalbhoy is in this country as a special representative of the Indian film industry and as a member of the Indian delegation which attended the recent International Business Conference at Rye, N. Y.

Personal Mention

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, returned to his office yesterday after a physical checkup in the Fifth Avenue Hospital.

•

DARRYL ZANUCK will leave the Coast today on the Streamliner en route to New York for his Nobel Anniversary dinner address Sunday.

•

HOWARD DIETZ, M-G-M vice president in charge of advertising, publicity and exploitation, will leave New York for the Coast Friday.

•

HAROLD COHEN, Monogram Southern exchanges special sales representative, will leave Atlanta to spend the year end holidays in New Orleans.

•

CHARLES ZAGRANS, RKO Philadelphia branch manager, will celebrate his 25th anniversary in the business this month.

•

TED O'SHEA, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, will leave Dec. 12 for Jacksonville and Atlanta.

•

JOEL LEVY, Loew's out of town booker, has returned to New York from a Southern trip.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, head of Malco Theatres, is scheduled to arrive in New York Dec. 11.

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic president, left here yesterday for the Coast with stopovers en route.

•

WALLIAM BRUMBERG, Warner field public relations representative in Cleveland and Cincinnati, will return to Cleveland today from New York.

•

SAMUEL C. LEVIN, former B&K theatre manager in Chicago, has been promoted from Captain to Major in the Army.

•

TED TODDY, president of Toddy Pictures, has returned to Atlanta after a trip to New York and the Coast.

•

CHARLIE KARR of Martin's Theatre circuit, Atlanta, will be married to MRS. LOUISE HUDSON.

•

HARRY H. THOMAS, Monogram's Eastern division manager, left yesterday for the Midwest.

•

HARRY M. WARNER is scheduled to leave for the Coast over the weekend.

•

BOB WILLIAM, Warner studio publicist, left New York for the Coast yesterday.

•

CRANE WILBUR, director, is in New York from the Coast to direct a play.

Grierson Endorses U.S. Canadian Films

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—John Grierson, Canadian Film Commissioner, who has been here for a week, stated today that he is checking on the progress of Hollywood production of service films under a Canadian Government contract and spiked Toronto rumors of the possibility of his having made the trip to arrange for U. S. production of commercial feature pictures with Canadian backgrounds.

Grierson said he believes the normal flow of American films on Canadian subjects, like "Corvette K-225" and "Captain of the Clouds," serves the Dominion's purposes. He is also hopeful that J. Arthur Rank will include similar subjects in his English productions.

Grierson will return on Sunday to Canada.

20th Giving Same Bonus as Last Year

Twentieth Century-Fox will again give a Christmas bonus of two weeks' salary, not to exceed a maximum of $50, to employes earning up to $75, the same as that granted last year, it was learned here yesterday. War Labor Board approval has already been obtained.

N. J. Allied Dinner Set for Dec. 19

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will hold its annual Christmas 'get-together' beefsteak dinner at Harry Hecht's Ritz restaurant in Passaic, on Dec. 19. A business meeting will precede the dinner.

Zanuck Buys 'Razor's Edge' for $50,000

"Razor's Edge," Somerset Maugham novel, has been purchased by Darryl Zanuck for $50,000 and 20 per cent of the profits. Originally, Edward Alperson had a deal for the rights for $50,000, plus one-third of the profits, but it is understood that Alperson has turned over his rights to 20th Century-Fox for a contract calling for the financing and release of three pictures in the lower financial brackets to be made for 20th-Fox.

Dec. 20th Is Definite For Decree Hearing

Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard told MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday that he had set Dec. 20 as the date for hearing the Department of Justice's petition to modify the industry consent decree. At that time he will also hear the application of Harry Arthur's St. Louis Amusement Co. to intervene in the proceedings which will be opposed by both the companies and the Government.

British Films to Europe

British films will shortly be shipped to theatres in Europe, according to a British broadcast to France which was reported by the U. S. Office of War Information here. The radio report indicated that Britain planned to distribute "250,000 copies of documentary films or features describing the British war effort" in occupied countries. The broadcast also reported that 1,200 copies of British newsreels will be distributed weekly.

'Vets' Entitled to Old Jobs, Says NAM

Washington, Dec. 5.—Returning veterans are legally entitled to their old jobs back—even if they displace men of greater ability or more seniority, the legal department of the National Association of Manufacturers concludes in a finding to be made public this week in the NAM Law Digest.

Disagreeing with some interpretations of Selective Service which indicate that a veteran has absolute priority to a job for one year after restoration, the Digest suggests that seniority would be a factor in determining layoffs due to reduction in force.

S. S. Comerford to Be Launched Dec. 11

Date of launching of the Liberty Ship designated by the United States Maritime Commission as the *S.S. M. E. Comerford*, in honor of the late Pennsylvania theatre circuit operator, has been set for Dec. 11 at 6:30 P.M. at the yards of the Jones Shipbuilding Co., Brunswick, Ga.

The ship will be christened by Comerford's widow, who resides at Scranton, Pa. The co-sponsor will be his daughter, Mrs. Thomas Friday. The launching ceremony will be attended by members of Comerford's family, including Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, Judge Thomas J. Walker and Dr. Joseph Comerford, nephews.

The ship's library will be presented by Comerford's former employees.

Loew Pays $3,250,000 On Retirement Plan

Loew's has paid its first annual check, on its retirement plan, to Equitable Life Assurance Society of the U. S. Check, which represented one year's total for the fund was $3,250,000. Employees with the company for 10 years or more will receive benefits when they retire.

No employee pays anything toward the retirement fund, the corporation taking care of the entire total.

L. B. Mayer Returns To MGM on Dec. 18

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Louis B. Mayer, vice-president in charge of production of M-G-M, will return to his desk the week of Dec. 18, after several months in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital recuperating from injuries suffered in a fall from a horse. Mayer has been out of the hospital for over a week.

Three Buy WJZ Time

Loew's, 20th Century-Fox and Republic are new buyers of time on radio station WJZ, New York outlet of the Blue Network, for film promotions. The 20th Century-Fox deal calls for 14 weekly chain-break announcements for 52 weeks.

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"TAKE IT OFF, LEO WE KNOW YOU!"

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
MGM

Bonds Buy Bombs! Sock 'em with the 6th!

Balaban Says War Coverage Adequate

"Marine combat photographers are Marines first and photographers second," Sgt. Burt Balaban, veteran of South Pacific action, declared here this week in an interview at Paramount's home office. Son of Barney Balaban, Paramount president, the sergeant, 22, explained the job of combat photographers who, with "war photographers," are responsible for all actual war material appearing in newsreels, documentaries and the films which will be preserved in the permanent record of World War II.

Balaban, who worked with the late Damien Parer, Paramount newsreel man from Australia, explained that war photographers are civilians in the employ of film companies. "They travel," he said, "unarmed, with the line troops, into the thick of battle." Parer was killed in the invasion of Palau.

The Pacific photographers work out of Pearl Harbor, said Balaban. He commended the cooperation that exists between combat and war photographers. Exposed film is flown to Pearl Harbor and then dispatched to California or Washington for development and eventual release to the newsreels and other media. Sgt. Balaban stated that coverage is now adequate and that difficulties of preserving film, due to humidity and other adverse weather conditions, have now been overcome with protective wrapping and immediate shipment as it is today.

Name Chairmen of NAB Committees

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—The following chairmen of National Association of Broadcasters standing committees have been appointed to serve until the next yearly meeting.

Lee B. Wailes, Philadelphia, code committee; Harry LePoidevin, WRJN, Racine, labor; John B. Conley, WOWO, Fort Wayne, office forms and practices; Harold Fair, WHO, Des Moines, program directors; John F. Patt, WGAR, Cleveland, public relations, and Karl Koerper, KMBC, Kansas City, radio news.

Televise Film History

Fifty years of motion picture history were highlighted through films and an early motion picture camera provided by Francis Dubilier on radio station WOR's "Video Varieties" television program, telecast over DuMont's New York station WABD, last night.

RKO Buys 'Wheels'

RKO has purchased the play originally called "Hit the Road," retitled "America on Wheels," from Noel Meadow as a possible vehicle for Fibber McGee and Molly. The play, which was scheduled to go into production in the early Spring, has been removed from Meadow's schedule.

SOPEG Sends 400 Gifts

Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, local 109, UOPWA, CIO, has sent more than 400 Christmas packages to members in the Armed Forces overseas. Funds for the gifts were raised at a series of dances held at the union's Silver Screen Canteen here.

Reviews

"National Velvet"

(M-G-M)

REFRESHING and original is "National Velvet," the Pandro Berman production of the Enid Bagnold novel which relates the story of a small girl's great love of a horse and what came of it.

Little Elizabeth Taylor, as Velvet Brown, the tot who won the horse she loved, in a raffle, entered it in England's Grand National, helped train it for the great race and, finally, rode it victoriously herself when convinced that the only available jockey did not believe in its ability to win, looms large in the story and the film. She acquits herself splendidly in the difficult role, at times endowing with credibility even the highly imaginative circumstance of a very young girl riding the unknown winner of one of turfdom's greatest races.

Mickey Rooney, as a homeless boy befriended by Velvet's family, helps her to realize her dream for herself and her beloved horse, The Pi. Twice Velvet's faith in Rooney restrains him from stealing from the family and running away. He remains to guide the training of The Pi and to familiarize its young owner with the Aintree course sufficiently to make it possible for Velvet to serve as jockey when the last-minute emergency arrives. Donald Crisp and Anne Revere, as Velvet's parents; Jackie Jenkins, Juanita Quigley and Angela Lansbury, as brother and sisters, are the principals in many delightful family scenes which, under Clarence Brown's understanding direction, lighten and enliven the picture.

Outstanding in the production is the detailed filming of a counterpart of the Grand National Steeplechase, a thrilling camera accomplishment, and one that would seem difficult for an original to surpass. In a twist that reverses old-time film practice, "National Velvet" resorts to near-fantasy in its intermediate stages, rather than reserving that for a happy ending, and turns realistic in conclusion. Velvet faints after crossing the finishing line on Pi, and falls from the horse, nullifying the victory because of a technicality. But she has proved her horse and her faith in it and loss of the rich purse means nothing to her. Also, in conclusion, Rooney takes to the road to make his place in the world, leaving his faithful friend, Velvet, behind.

Technical photography is striking throughout the film, scenic country and seaside locales having been employed for the story's English background. Theodore Reeves and Helen Deutsch provided the screenplay for a film which should prove pleasant fare for any theatre and any audience.

Running time, 125 minutes. "G."* Release not set. SHERWIN KANE

"Farewell My Lovely"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, Dec. 5

THIS is the kind of picture a showman can endorse to his friends as well as to his customers, serene in the assurance that customers and friends alike are going to find themselves fascinated by it throughout their 95 minutes in its presence. It is murder-mystery-melodrama at its best—brisk, brittle and brighter than most dollars—with Dick Powell, Anne Shirley, Claire Trevor, Otto Kruger and other skilled players outdoing themselves in a production that proclaims itself bigger and better than any or all of them.

The time of the picture is today, with nothing in it to remind of the war, and the place is Los Angeles. Powell portrays a private detective, a shoestring variety of operative, picked up by the District Attorney on suspicion of murder. He relates the story, which is told in flashbacks, commencing with his receipt of two assignments in one evening. One of these is to locate a former sweetheart of a massive thug just out of prison. The other is to accompany a playboy on a mission to pay off a blackmailer. Through a procession of events, which include a perplexing assortment of indirectly-connected incidents of violence, the detective comes at last to a seeing of the light of truth. It is not for reviewers to attempt to tell the tale in brief.

Powell's performance is doubtless his best, and contains no singing, which is not the reason. Miss Trevor has her best assignment in years and Miss Shirley has a role tailored to her measure. Kruger is brilliant in a relatively brief appearance, and Mike Mazurki is a standout as the man of might.

Production, by Adrian Scott, for executive producer Sid Rogell, is of utmost proficiency and polish. Edward Dmytryk's direction flows with lightning-like lucidity, and John Paxton's script is a work of brilliance, both as to whole and as to blending of comedy with suspense.

Running time, 95 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"G" denotes general classification.

CBS Promotes Two

Charles Holden has been appointed manager of studio operations of CBS television station WCBW, and Fred Rickey has joined the same staff as writer. For the past several months Holden was laboratory assistant in CBS television engineering, and Rickey was formerly an assistant director in the network's shortwave department.

Carlin, Swezey to MBS

Phillips Carlin has been named vice-president in charge of Mutual network programs, and Robert D. Swezey has been named a vice-president and assistant general manager. Carlin recently resigned as vice-president in charge of program operations of the Blue Network, where he had been for 22 years. Swezey was formerly counsel and secretary with the Blue.

'Laff-Movie' And All-Western Houses

Boston and Cleveland have new theatre innovations. Boston has its first 'Laff-Movie', and programming comedy pictures only. Cleveland will have what is claimed to be the Midwest's only all-Western house, using dual Westerns, changing three times weekly.

The Boston theatre is the former Normandie; the Cleveland house is the Penn Square, for the past five years a foreign film house.

Albany Dinner for Warner Executives

ALBANY, Dec. 5.—Warner Bros. officials in this territory, plus some from the home office will be guests at a dinner to be given jointly by the local Chamber of Commerce and the Sales Executives Club, on Dec. 15, when "Hollywood Canteen" will have a premiere at the Strand.

Other guests at the dinner will include John Reed King and Fred Cole of Mutual's "Double or Nothing" program, which will broadcast premiere activities from the theater. Charles A. Smakwitz, assistant zone manager for Warner Theaters, is working with the clubs on arrangements.

Trans-Lux to Build In Washington

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Trans-Lux has purchased the Maryland Building and the McLean property on H Street and New York Ave., to build a 2,000-seat theatre and 13-story office building.

The theatre will be equipped for television, with the present Trans-Lux house, on an adjacent site, continuing to operate on a current newsreel policy. Herbert J. Krapp, New York architect, is preparing plans for the new theatre which, with the rest of the project, will represent an estimated investment up to $3,000,000.

Legion Rates Seven; 'Bridge' in Class 'B'

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: Class A-1, "National Velvet," M-G-M; A-2, "Adios Juventud," (Spanish) Filmex-Clasa; "Destiny" and "My Gal Loves Music," Universal; "Marthe Richard," (French), Rafael-Robert Hakim; "Winged Victory," 20th Century-Fox. The Legion placed M-G-M's reissue, "Waterloo Bridge," in Class B, as "objectionable in part."

Goldwyn East Soon

Samuel Goldwyn will leave Hollywood for New York in about six weeks for his annual visit here. He will confer with his staff and RKO executives, interview authors for possible story buys and will also view Broadway shows.

'Toni' Spitzer Resigns

Antoinette Spitzer, for the past five years Eastern publicity director for Walt Disney Productions, has resigned, effective Jan. 1. Miss Spitzer is recovering from a major operation at Manhattan General Hospital.

MEDAL OF HONOR

For Distinguished Service to Your Country

Make your service to your country outstanding by holding a War Bond Premiere in the Smashing Sixth.

This Medal, in recognition of your participation, will be presented by your State Exhibitor Chairman and State Distributor Chairman.

Be sure that your service merits this award.

Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, New York City

6th WAR LOAN

Three-Day 'U' Sales Meet Starts Friday

(Continued from page 1)

Meyers, Eastern sales manager; F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern sales manager; A. J. O'Keefe, Western sales manager; Edward A. McEvoy, short subject sales manager, and district managers David A. Levy, New York; John J. Scully, New England; M. M. Gottlieb, Chicago; Joe E. Garrison, Kansas City; Dave Miller, Cleveland; H. D. Graham, Atlanta; C. J. Feldman, Los Angeles; P. E. Rosian, Cincinnati; Salem Applegate, Philadelphia, and Maurice Bergman, head of the Eastern advertising department.

In announcing the meeting, Scully explained that one primary purpose of bringing the sales executives to New York is to crystallize the handling and exploitation of "Can't Help Singing," Deanna Durbin's first color picture. 'Can't Help Singing,' Scully said, "is the top budget picture in Universal's history."

During the three-day conference, plans also will be furnished for future Universal releases.

Strike Hits Republic And RKO in St. Louis

(Continued from page 1)

called, and 20th Century-Fox, in which the film company agreed to deliver pictures to the theatre under the existing contract.

Harry Arthur, Jr., F. & M. general manager, announced today that 90 theatre managers, meeting last night, voted to sue the union, its members and all parties to the tie-up for damages. Arthur charged that the strike interferes with the war effort by preventing war bond shows.

RKO pictures are shown in all first-runs here except the Loew's State and Orpheum Theatres, and Republic pictures are shown in 300 theatres in the area, including most of the major houses. The film exchanges are notifying out-of-town theatres to pick up films as long as deliveries cannot be made. So far the strike has not affected any out-of-town theatres.

100 From Industry Honor William Dover

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Industry leaders tonight honored William Dover at a banquet at the Beverly Hills Hotel, attended by 100 representatives of all organizations and studios. Kenneth Thomson, Abe Lastfogel, Charles Maddock, Bing Crosby, Dinah Shore and Edward G. Robinson were among the speakers who paid tribute to Dover for his achievements during two years overseas in charge of USO entertainment for the troops.

Blumenstock to Macon

Mort Blumenstock left here yesterday for Macon, Ga., to set up headquarters for nationwide publicity and promotional activities in connection with the world premiere there of Warners' "God Is My Co-Pilot," on Feb. 1. He will return to New York next week to complete arrangements for the world premiere of "Hollywood Canteen" here and in Albany on Dec. 15. Will Yolen accompanied Blumenstock to Macon and will remain there indefinitely.

Reviews

"Sunday Dinner for a Soldier"

(20th Century-Fox)

THE subject of hosting service men, farced by "Janie," now lends itself to idyllic romance, as well as comedy, in a Walter Morosco production that should captivate even the most hard-boiled audience.

It is the simple tale of a Spanish-American War veteran, Charles Winninger, and his four grandchildren, who plan and skimp and work with touching eagerness to provide a Sabbath repast for an unknown soldier from the USO. They have their troubles. Grandpa spends too much of his pension check on a new dress for the older girl, Anne Baxter, who keeps house. Connie Marshall, the younger girl, wastes away when it looks as though her pet chicken, "Lady Elizabeth," will have to be slaughtered for the feast. Billy Cummings, the older boy, beats the rugs so earnestly he knocks down the clothes line and ruins the curtains. And Bobby Driscoll, the baby, stands on his feet—because he stands on his head only when things are going well.

Then, on Sunday, the bus driver, 'Chil' Wills, arrives with the news that there's been a mix-up and will be no soldier. It is a blow, especially to Miss Baxter, who is in the habit of sneaking off to the gaunt foundations of a never-finished hotel, where, in what would have been the ballroom, she likes to dance with an imaginary partner to an imaginary orchestra playing "I'll See You in My Dreams." How this dream becomes real, in the person of a lonely, homeless B-29 waist-gunner, John Hodiak, whom the kids find wandering through the neighborhood, is unfolded in a series of heartwarming scenes that climax the picture.

The cast rings true, Miss Baxter and Hodiak in particular. Lloyd Bacon, making noteworthy use of tableau fadeouts, directed from a script which Wanda Tuchock and Melvyn Levy based on a Martha Cheavens story.

Running time, 86 minutes. "G."* Release in December. TOM LOY

**"G" denotes general classification.*

"Experiment Perilous"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, Dec. 5

THE New York of 41 years ago provides the colorful background against which an extremely interesting psychological drama unfolds in "Experiment Perilous," based upon a novel by Margaret Carpenter.

Because its scalpel probes sharply into decaying mental processes which are not normally predictable, the film is not an easy one to follow. It is not at all unlikely, as a consequence, that the average audience may become somewhat confused and not entirely clear at all points as to what exactly gives here. Subject matter further suggests the attraction will hold limited appeal for 'teenagers and rely upon adults for support, probably in the large cities at that.

Apart from its tendency toward knotting various, but admittedly necessary, offshoots of the principal story line, "Experiment Perilous" has much to recommend it for those who want their drama straight, not diluted with bubbled water.

It gets off to a fine degree of suspense in a careening railroad train fighting its way through violent storms. It is there that George Brent, prominent doctor, gets his first hint of Paul Lukas and his wife, Hedy Lamarr. Thereafter, they meet. Brent is retained by Lukas to probe Miss Lamarr's sanity. Circumstances demonstrate, in due order, that she is quite rational, that Brent has fallen in love with her and that it is Lukas who is mad.

Story convolutions are many and spread from the main characters like something akin to spokes of a wheel. However, the climax arrives when Lukas, feigning suicide on a Boston-bound boat, returns to do away with his wife and young son and Brent, as he had eliminated another of Miss Lamarr's admirers some years earlier, and his own sister latterly. It is about at this point when Lukas' mind cracks completely and persuades him to round out his series of criminally insane deeds by blowing up his home through gas. Lukas is killed and the others injured. Recovery follows to pave the way for completion of the romance between Miss Lamarr and Brent.

The treatment advances the barest trace of infidelity on the wife's part insofar as the paternity of her child is concerned. However, it is a wisp of a suggestion which leaves the audience to determine what it will. There is also a decided anti-climax when the script deems it required to re-establish what the onlooker already knows: Lukas' death at the hands of his own diabolic plottings.

Nevertheless, Robert Fellows, executive producer; Warren Duff, doubling as producer and scenarist, and Jacques Tourneur, director, have moulded their ingredients into a solid job of serious picture-making for grownups. They have gotten acting performances of general excellence from their principals and their supporting players, who include Albert Dekker, Carl Esmond, George N. Neise, Margaret Wycherly, Stephanie Bachelor, Mary Servoss, and, notably, Olive Blakeney.

As a piece of production craftsmanship, the film, moreover, is so good it enters the category of an achievement. The horse-and-buggy decade has been captured with a fine fidelity and appreciation. The responsibility of Albert S. D'Agostino and Jack Okey, the art directors, deliver with distinction. Their companion-artisans in all of this are those experts of the camera, Tony Gaudio and Vernon L. Walker.

Running time, 91 minutes. "A."* No release date set.

RED KANN

**"A" denotes adult classification.*

Connors Talks on Forthcoming Films

(Continued from page 1)

nors introduced Hal Horne, director of advertising and publicity, who announced that the Army Air Forces is cooperating with the company on a national publicity and exploitation campaign for "Winged Victory." Lt. Col. Stanford Chester, chief of special events division in Washington, assisted by Lieut. Damon R. Elder, will direct the exploitation and special events program. AAF public relations office in Washington has named Capt. Charles J. Giezendanner, Jr., as national project officer.

Assistants Named

Horne announced that Capt. Brice Hayes, Lieutenants Marie Jay Cady, Elnora L. Gerlow and S. R. Walker, and M/Sgt Raymond Williams, of the AAF, will assist in the New York City campaign. S/Sgt. Bill Doll, Sgt. Irving Schneider and Cpl. Joe Quilian will be stationed at the New York publicity offices of 20th-Fox to assist on newspaper, periodical and radio publicity. Horne introduced the personnel in his advertising, publicity and exploitation department to the meeting, including Charles Schlaifer, his assistant.

Spyros Skouras, president, will address today's meeting. The March of Time will hold a reception at 6 p.m. at the Hampshire House for the delegates.

'Winged Victory' Set For Roxy Christmas

"Winged Victory" will be the Christmas picture at the Roxy Theatre here, Tom Connors, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, announced yesterday. The company will turn over all proceeds from distribution of the film to Army relief funds.

Rites Tomorrow for Robert Warwick, 66

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Funeral services will be held here Thursday at Strothers' Chapel for Robert Warwick, 66, film actor, who died Sunday after a brief illness. Interment will be in Hollywood Memorial Park.

Warwick's career in the industry dates from the early days of silent pictures. His widow survives him.

Brizee Killed in France

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 5.—Pfc. Clifford H. Brizee, formerly of Eastman Kodak here, has been reported killed in action in France. Survivors include five children.

'Celestials' 1st Meeting

"The Celestials," new monthly luncheon-club for those in advertising, newspaper and magazine fields, held its inaugural at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here, yesterday, with 300 in attendance and James A. Farley as guest speaker. Several film personalities were among the entertainers. Among film publicity men invited were: Maurice Bergman, Mort Blumenstock, Herb Crooker, Hank Linet, Fred Lynch, Barret McCormick, Rutgers Neilsen, Al Wilkie, Howard Dietz and R. J. Gillham.

More Independent Filming; Lasky

(Continued from page 1)

always kept a close watch on trends. The time is near when all production will be based on story value with small units producing the same as is done on Broadway," the producer said. "That is why I left Warner Bros., to set up my own company. Our settlement was most amicable, but I want to be in on the trend of the times," he commented.

Lasky said that he and Walter MacEwen, his associate, will spend a month in New York gathering material for production. He said he plans four features next year at a cost of $1,000,000 each as reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY. Yesterday he closed a deal for his first property, "Thank God, I'll Take It from Here," by Jane Allen and Mae Livingston, for which he paid $75,000.

Lasky stated that he will finance unproduced plays with film possibilities, instead of waiting until they have played Broadway and having to bid with other companies for film rights. His first picture will be started in April at a studio still to be engaged. He said he has had three offered him. Each guarantees complete financing as well as a release.

Lasky will open offices in New York and have a representative here. During his stay he will see Broadway plays and buy material as well as arrange a releasing deal. He will soon join the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

De Mille to Leave Air Rather Than Pay $1

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Cecil B. De Mille, notified that he would be barred from the air beginning next Monday unless he pays the $1 assessment of the American Federation of Radio Artists to oppose a proposed state law to ban the closed shop, said he would consider it a duty to forego his $5,000 weekly salary from the Lux Radio Theatre rather than pay "one single dollar in a political tribute which acknowledges that I am no longer a free man."

Mrs. Emily Holt, Afra executive secretary, and George Heller, her associate, in an open letter to De Mille, today called upon him to be "a law-abiding member" and pay the dollar. They noted that he had failed to attend the meeting at which the assessment was voted.

Feature Backlog of 130 Hits Reissues

(Continued from page 1)

"My Wild Irish Rose," in color, for a March 15 shooting date. He has also acquired an original by Harry Segall, author of "Here Comes Mr. Jordan."

Budd Rogers, who is also American representative of Mayflower Productions, London, headed by Charles Laughton and Erich Pommer, which produced "The Beachcomber," "Jamaica Inn" and "Sidewalks of London," said that next month, distribution of Mayflower's pictures by Paramount, will end.

Rogers also represents Walter Wanger, working on "Salome, Where She Danced." Wanger's "Night in Paradise" will start shooting Jan. 2; he releases through Universal.

Industry Commitments Are Near Filled for the 6th

(Continued from page 1)

it was said, "6,017 theatres were issuing agents. The industry is pledged to top that figure for the Sixth drive. The committee has received 343 newly-created issuing agents and 122 new sub-issuing agents in theatres. Final checkup on the number of issuing agent theatres participating in the Sixth War Loan Drive reveals 6,482, thus fulfilling that promise."

During the Fifth War Loan drive, 8,061 theatres observed national "Free Movie Day." For the Sixth War Loan well over 10,000 theatres will hold "Free Movie Day" shows tomorrow. During the fifth, the industry obtained 5,032 Bond Premieres and 1,116 Children's Matinees. As of Dec. 4, the Sixth War Loan drive topped each, with 6,015 bond premieres and 1,137 Children's Matinees.

Brandt in Nine-City Phone Conference

Harry Brandt, national chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan, last night held a nine-city telephone conference with his co-chairmen in Los Angeles, Dallas, Minneapolis, Chicago, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, Des Moines and Boston, in connection with "Free Movie Day" and the nation's observance of Pearl Harbor Day tomorrow.

He told his listening contemporaries that their efforts on behalf of the drive were more than gratifying—that to date it would seem they will beat previous campaign records. The chairman outlined the number of premieres set in various areas, and heard first-hand reports regarding projection room showings.

Speaking in New York, in addition to Brandt, were Ned Depinet, Jay Emanuel, Max Cohen and John Hertz, Jr.

Out-of-town chairman who participated in this telephone conference were Hugh Bruen in Los Angeles; Henry Reeve in Dallas; Al Steffes in Minneapolis; Jack Kirsch in Chicago; Fred Wehrenberg in St. Louis; John Rugar in Salt Lake City; Leo Wolcott in Des Moines; Nathan Yamins in Boston and Ted Lloyd in Hollywood.

The 30-minute phone conference concluded with Brandt expressing his appreciation to each of the co-chairmen. He urged them to complete the requested list of persons in their territories who were rightfully entitled to be awarded the industry's "Medal of Honor."

Services to Mark Pearl Harbor Day Tomorrow

All-denomination religious services will mark Pearl Harbor Day at the Statue of Liberty in Times Square tomorrow at 2:15 p. m., when representatives of the Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths join with military leaders, officials of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and civic leaders in special ceremonies. Dr. Samuel H. Goldenson, PhD., D.H.L., Rabbi of Congregation Emanuel, will deliver the invocation, and participating in the services will be Dr. Eugene C. Carder, general secretary of the Protestant Council of the City of New York, and the most Rev. J. Francis A. McIntyre, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of New York.

The program, arranged jointly by the War Finance, Motion Pictures War Activities and the United Theatrical War Activities committees, will be broadcast over WMCA between 2:15 and 2:45 p.m.

Lower N. Y. Houses Show $10,242,544 in 1st Week

Sales of E bonds by theatres in lower New York state at the end of the first week of the Sixth War Loan totalled $10,242,544, as compared with $10,039,729 for the corresponding period in the Fifth War Loan, it was reported by Malcolm Kingsberg, general chairman for this area for the War Activities Committee. The total dollar amount is about two per cent ahead of sales for the last drive.

Theatres have sold 100,549 bonds, which represents an increase of over 500 above the 95,000 individual sales for the same period in the Fifth. Manhattan has registered the biggest sales increase, followed by the Bronx and Brooklyn.

695 N. Y. Theatres Observe 'Movie Day'

Tomorrow, Pearl Harbor Day, will be "Free Movie Day" in the 695 theatres in the metropolitan New York area. According to Malcolm Kingsberg, area chairman of the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan, this is the greatest number of theatres to participate in "Free Movie Day" since that bond promotional stunt was initiated. "Free Movie Day" will be observed nationally tomorrow and bond sales in theatres are expected to break previous records for bond admissions.

20th-Fox Studio Buys $1,250,000 in Bonds

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—The second studio to make a corporation buy in the Sixth War Loan drive, 20th-Fox, today bought $1,250,000 worth of bonds. Incomplete tally of agent purchases was highlighted by $100,000 from Jules Stein. Allied industries' total passed $300,000 during the first two weeks, with Technicolor listed as buying $150,000.

De Rochemont Reception

March of Time will give a press reception this afternoon for Richard De Rochemont, MOT producer, at the Hampshire House here.

Selznick Signs Vidor

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—David O. Selznick has signed King Vidor to direct "Duel in the Sun."

Todd Sued on Plays

Michael Todd will be examined before trial today in New York Supreme Court in connection with a $25,000 suit filed against him by Erwin Grayson, in which it is charged the producer failed to pay back monies loaned him in connection with the financing of some plays. Grayson lists all Todd plays in his complaint, some of which have film backing.

Postwar Films Pacts Held in Jeopardy

(Continued from page 1)

Texas, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, expressed his objections to the agreement and predicted that it would not be ratified.

His statement has direct importance for the motion picture treaty, since the oil agreement is the blueprint on which will be patterned the film and many other agreements.

Connally's position, supported by other Senate leaders, indicated also that industry will have a strong voice as to the content of the post-war treaties. The pending agreement has been bitterly opposed by the oil industry, of which Connally is a Congressional spokesmen, and the Administration already has recognized its opposition in a request that industry leaders prepare constructive suggestions for improvement of the pact.

Since it is feared that failure to consummate the oil agreement, would influence foreign governments from attempting to enter into arrangements with respect to films and other commodities, the Administration is expected to make every effort to revamp the treaty so as to gain industry and Congressional approval.

Freeman Continues As Head of AMPP

(Continued from page 1)

next Spring; but the action is construed as meaning that the association, which has not been holding full scale sessions for some time, evidently is now reconstituting itself along more active and vigorous lines.

Allen Wilson was elected to the board representing Republic Productions, and a resolution was passed expressing condolence to Watterson Rothacker, Quigley Publishing Co. vice-president and West Coast director of the Office of War Censorship, on the death of his wife last Friday.

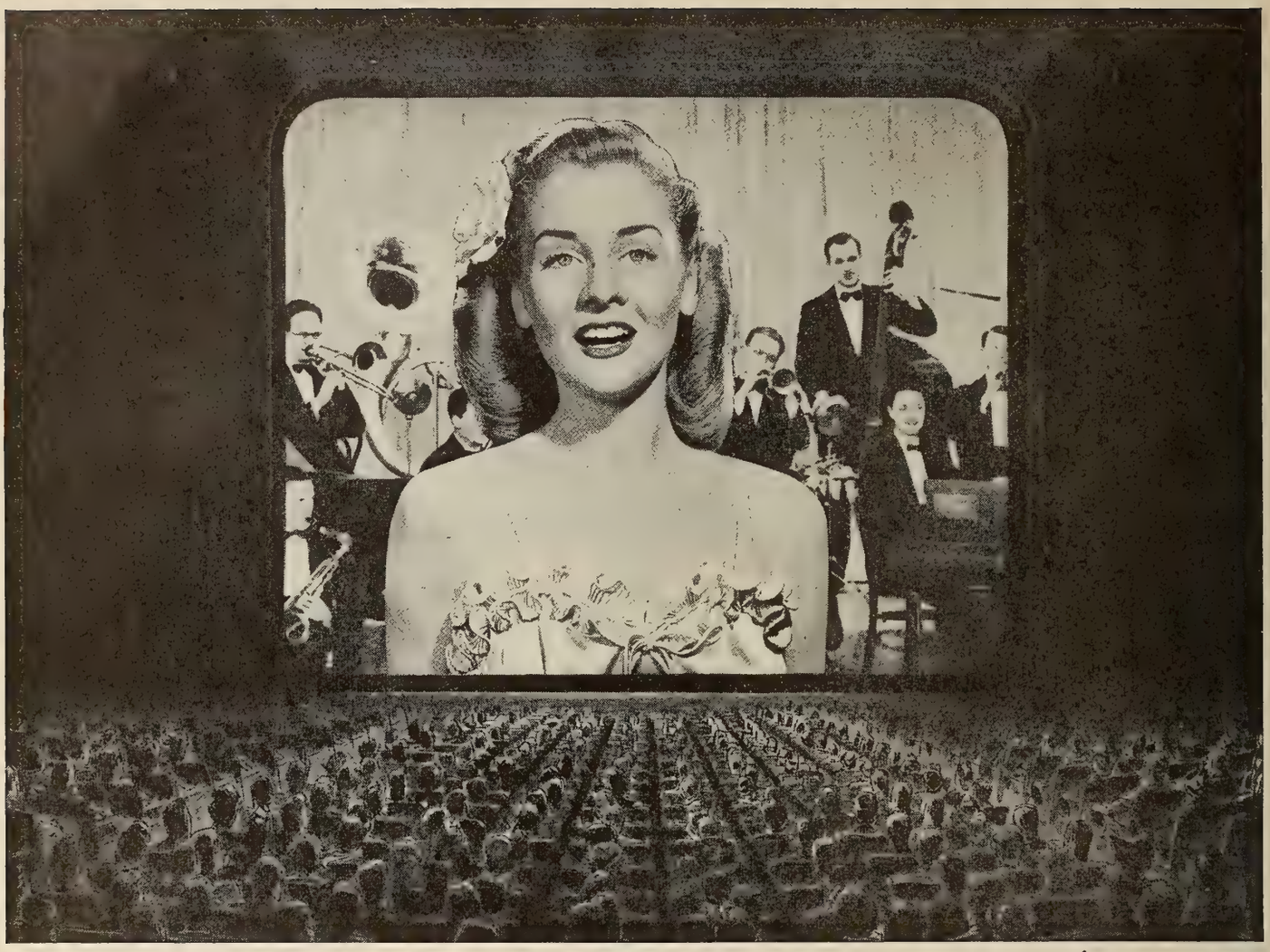
The resignation of Warner Bros. as a member of the association was accepted effective May 30, 1945. The delayed date is in conformity with the by-laws, which stipulate that resignations cannot become effective under six months. Therefore, Warners had filed an amended letter to make the company's withdrawal conform to the by-law stipulations.

Willkie Estate Left in Trust to Mrs. Willkie

The estate of the late Wendell L. Willkie, 20th Century-Fox board chairman, formally valued at "more than $20,000," was left in trust for his widow, Mrs. Edith Willkie, in his will, which was filed for probate yesterday in Surrogate's Court, New York County. Upon her death, the estate shall be held in trust for the deceased's son, Philip Willkie, 24, until he attains the age of 30.

RCA Has Rectifier

Distribution of the Rect-O-Lite tube-type rectifier, manufactured by the Baldor Electric Co. of St. Louis, will be handled hereafter by the Theatre Equipment Section of the RCA Victor Division, Radio Corp. of America, it is announced by G. A. Schock, head of the Apparatus Division of the Baldor firm.



How your SOUND has improved!

IF you were in the motion picture industry back in '26 when Western Electric first brought sound to the screen, you'll remember that *any* sound was good enough to draw crowds to theatres.

The public thought that early sound was great—and it was! But Western Electric engineers knew that tremendous improvements in sound recording and reproduction could and must be made. They've never stopped working on the problem—and they've never stopped getting results.

Let's look back a minute. In 1931, Western Electric introduced *Noiseless Recording*—a vast improvement that did away with hissing and scratching background noises.

In 1932 came Western Electric *Wide Range Sound Recording* that successfully took care of everything from a whisper to an earthquake.

The next step ahead was *Mirrophonic Sound Recording* which brought still greater naturalness of tonal quality to the screen.

Because these changes have come gradually, it's hard to realize how tremendous the improvements have been. But you know 1926 sound wouldn't draw any crowds in 1944.

Has sound recording reached its peak of perfection today? Western Electric engineers of the Electrical Research Products Division say, "No!" They are confident that new knowledge gained in their years of war work will lead to still finer sound in the pictures of tomorrow.

Electrical Research Products Division
OF
Western Electric Company
INCORPORATED
195 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

★ SPEED THE DAY OF VICTORY BY BUYING WAR BONDS — MORE WAR BONDS — AND STILL MORE! ★

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 109 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1944 | TEN CENTS

STRIKE IN ST. LOUIS DARKENS 30 HOUSES

Paramount, Republic, 20th, Warner Brothers And RKO Are Involved

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 6.—Some 30 theatres are dark here tonight, including the first-run Missouri and Ambassador theatres, as the film exchange union strike spread to 20th Century-Fox and Warner Bros. Also on strike are workers of Paramount, RKO and Republic, with no prospect of an early settlement.

Local spokesmen indicated the spread of the strike over the state, and possibly the nation, is threatened, although efforts are being expended to keep it localized. Ironically, the three theatres originally involved in the dispute, because of their refusal to hire union projectionists, have remained open; they are the Ozark in

(*Continued on page 6*)

Walsh Assigns Snow To Probe Strike; Was Not Authorized

Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, said here yesterday that he has directed Felix Snow of Kansas City, IATSE vice-president, to make an immediate investigation of the St. Louis strike situation. "The IATSE has not authorized the strike," Walsh said.

Labor spokesmen in New York yesterday told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that if St. Louis exchange Locals B-1 and F-1 have acted upon

(*Continued on page 6*)

Proposes Producers Pay for Navy Aid

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—Possibilities that Hollywood producers will not much longer be able to use U. S. Navy facilities for background and other use in pictures without paying for them were hinted at today in testimony before the House Appropriations Committee, released with introduction of an appropriation bill in which the Navy Department is given

(*Continued on page 3*)

New Building Code for N. Y. Theatres Feb. 1

Exhibitor Complaints Expected on Changes

The New York State Labor Department's advisory committee which is drafting a revised building code for theatres and places of public assembly in all parts of New York State except New York City, is expected to complete the revisions by Feb. 1, according to a spokesman of the Department here.

Continued satisfactory progress is being made and the sessions have been without any major controversial incidents—so far, it was said. The next

(*Continued on page 6*)

Rathvon Picks Red Cross Drive Aides

N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, who was named earlier this week to the national chairmanship of Red Cross 'Movie Week' in the 1945 Red Cross War Fund Campaign, in March, has appointed an executive staff to assist him during the drive.

Major L. E. Thompson of RKO Theatres has been named national executive coordinator, Leon J. Bam-

(*Continued on Page 7*)

Warners to Make Patriotic Films

"Patriotic and educational pictures will form a permanent part of Warner Bros.' production program; they will not cease at the conclusion of the war," Harry M. Warner, president of the company, told a gathering of Navy and Coast Guard officials, headed by Lt. Commander Jack Dempsey, as well as Warner employees, at a home office screening of "Beachhead to Berlin," yesterday. Other speeches were made by returned veterans.

Others present were: Major Albert Warner, Samuel Schneider, Arthur Sachson, Norman H. Moray, Harry M. Kalmine, Harry Goldberg, Karl Macdonald, and Jacob Wilk.

Strike No Bar to 'Free Movie Day'

"Despite the threatened shutdown of additional theatres in St. Louis, no National 'Free Movie Day' shows for today for the Sixth War Loan Drive will be affected," Fred Wehrenberg, co-chairman for the campaign in that territory, wired national drive headquarters here yesterday.

Skouras Cites Films' Value

Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, stressed the role of motion pictures in cementing international relations and good-will, in the principal address of the company's four-day sales session at the Hotel Astor here yesterday. He cited such films as "Wilson," which, he said, made an important contribution to the subject of world peace, and "The Song of Bernadette." "Bernadette," Skouras predicted, is the forerunner of films to

Spyros Skouras

(*Continued on page 3*)

Yule Shopping Sends Many First Runs Below Average

The pre-Christmas holiday box office slump is at hand, reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents reaching here yesterday disclosed. Whereas most weekly box office reports of key city first runs have for weeks infrequently shown below-average receipts, and nearly as infrequently maintained only a just-average pace, usually running well above, current box-office figures show a large number below par.

Typical of field reports reaching MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday were the following: Cincinnati, where only one first run was above average for the week, two maintained average and four were below; Philadelphia, six above, four below; Toronto, six first runs below average; Los Angeles and Hollywood experienced an usually heavy slump, with only two reporting above average grosses, one reporting average and 12 going under par; Providence, four above, three below; Buffalo, only one above, four below; Kansas City had only two above, four others hitting only average, or below.

Loew to Increase Common Stock

Loew's board of directors, meeting here yesterday, recommended a program to cancel all authorized preferred stock, and to increase the authorized common from 4,000,000 to 6,000,000 shares. A special meeting of stockholders will be called later, and if approved, it is proposed to split the present common on a three-for-one basis, with the intention of placing the new common on a dividend basis of $1.50 annually.

The board also declared a dividend of 50 cents a share on the common, plus an extra dividend of $1.50 a share, payable Dec. 30 to stockholders of record Dec. 19. This makes the total dividend $4.00 a share on the common for the year.

Reviewed Today

Review of "Destiny" appears on page 6; "Firebrands of Arizona," on page 7.

Remember Pearl Harbor? Remember the 6th War Loan!

Personal Mention

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations director, left the Coast Tuesday for New York, and will visit Salt Lake City, Denver, Omaha and Chicago en route here.

•

SANTIAGO REACHI, head of Posa Films, Mexico, arrived yesterday in Hollywood for conferences with CHARLES W. KOERNER, vice-president of RKO-Radio Studios. He will remain 10 days.

•

ARTHUR J. DUNNE, assistant to JAMES J. DONOHUE, Paramount Central division manager, will leave Sunday for Indianapolis.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern division sales manager, will return to New York today from Pittsburgh.

•

TYRONE POWER, now with the Marines, will arrive in Atlanta this week.

•

JACK DIETZ of Banner Productions has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

M. A. SCHLESINGER, now in Hollywood, will return to New York shortly.

•

MITCHELL MAY, theatrical insurance underwriter, is due in New York from Hollywood in a few days.

Monogram's Capital Stock Increased

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6.—The Monogram board of directors, in its annual meeting here today, approved an increase in the company's capital stock by the issuance of 100,000 shares of cumulative preferred, with par value $10 per share.

An expansion in the employes bonus allocation to $50,000 was approved in view of a prospective increase in personnel. Under the revised plan, production employes will be eligible for bonuses.

All Monogram officers, headed by W. Ray Johnston, president, were reelected.

Dezel, Rosenberg Form New Company

National Roadshows, Inc., has been formed by Albert Dezel of Dezel Roadshows, Chicago, and Max J. Rosenberg, Classic Pictures, New York, as a roadshow distributing organization. Dezel operates exchanges in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit.

Glass Leaves Goldwyn

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6.—George Glass has resigned as director of advertising and publicity for Samuel Goldwyn. No successor has been named.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Dec. 6

WHO was it who told gullible Eastern reporters recently that the raw stock situation had imposed a limit of two takes per scene on Hollywood producers?

Sixty-one were shot on one, a tricky affair backed up by a couple of pages of dialogue, for a production just completed. That's high and it is also unusual, but decidedly unusual as well is that hooey about only two.

So that not too erroneous an impression gets afloat, it has to be remembered raw stock consumption at the fountain head never was the real problem anyway, although a problem it is. If 150,000 feet are used to bring in an attraction which goes to market in 120 minutes' running time, that's only 10,800 feet and it's the finish insofar as production may be concerned.

■

When the rest of the processes are borne in mind, however, the situation takes on a vastly different coloration. Avoiding the too statistical, but nevertheless dipping into figures for a flyer, take a look with us:

Listed in the current release chart of *Motion Picture Herald* are 45 attractions, each one of which ranges from 100 minutes, and then on up, in running time. It would take 5,322 minutes to grind these films, end on end, through standard projection. At 90 feet of film per minute, which is standard in sound projection, the total is 478,980 feet.

Striking a purposely and incredibly low average of 100 prints for each of these 45, the celluloid mileage required to keep them in theatre circulation throughout the United States and Canada becomes 47,898,000 feet. A lot of raw stock, embracing a handful of releases when, of course, there are hundreds every season.

■

When a distributor scans his allotment and thereafter insists with his studio that a "B" be abandoned here and some shorts there, he finds himself making such a decision with eyes riveted on prints and the hundreds of thousands of feet of film necessary to keep his exchanges and their theatre accounts properly serviced.

When a distributor surveys his overlength babies, his considerations are identical. But he goes beyond when he argues with his producers that it is not length which makes quality. He is thinking of justifiable exhibitor complaints about overtime in operation, invasions into turnovers and the dissipation of dramatic and entertainment values which more often than otherwise are party to the picture which runs from dawn to midnight.

■ ■

Anyone who knows anything about studios knows they all employ girl messengers; a lot of them good-looking, too. He also knows part of the accepted embroidery is to accept them in sweaters.

In "Hollywood Canteen," the romantic foil opposite Dane Clark turns out to be a runner on the Warner payroll. Only, it is regrettable to relate, she is not faithful to her craft. She wears a suit.

Realism had to give away to edict: The one about sweater girls. On Janis Paige it would have been becoming, too.

■ ■

Neil Agnew now believes, and moreover believes in print, theatre divorcement would result in an open market which will benefit any sales manager with film under his arm.

For years, Agnew was vice-president in charge of sales at Paramount whose associated theatre interests are the largest in the United States.

Where you sit makes the difference.

■ ■

At a preview the other evening, the opening musical signature blasted its way through the theatre sound system as the main title hit the screen. It was overwhelming and quite impressive. Not, however, so overwhelming or so impressive that it failed to elicit this observation from a local wit:

"That won't help the picture any."

■ ■

Conservatism has bombed its day into town. The president of one of the major companies, by ukase, is alleged to have ruled his studio must not spend more than $1,000,000 per each of its topflight shows.

A protest meeting is being organized by indignant producers and Creators of the Art. Battle cry: "You can't do that to us."

■ ■

PRC in the theatre field has much behind it. Intensely interesting possibilities. About this in due time.

Warners Announce First 5 for 1945

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6.—Following a meeting here today between Jack L. Warner, Warner Bros. vice-president in charge of production; Benjamin Kalmenson, general sales manager; and Charles S. Einfeld, director of advertising and publicity, the company announced the following initial releases for 1945: "Hollywood Canteen," "To Have and Have Not," "Objective Burma," "Roughly Speaking" and "God Is My Co-Pilot," in that order.

Kalmenson will entrain at the weekend for meetings with Southwest exchange managers on "Canteen."

Cohen Names 3 for WB Foreign Posts

Three appointments in the foreign field have been made by Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner Bros. International Corp. in charge of Latin-America, Australia and the Far East.

Michael Sokol has been transferred from Panama to acting manager for Mexico, taking over the duties of Oscar Brooks, whose resignation takes effect shortly; Stanley F. Gaiter has been named acting manager for Colombia, to succeed Ramon Fernandez; Helio Wendhausen becomes acting manager for Uruguay, replacing Arthur Abeles, Jr., who was transferred to Argentina.

Cohen is now in Havana and will leave tomorrow for Porto Rico.

Columbia to Give Christmas Bonus

Columbia, following the same policy as last year, will distribute a Christmas bonus to employes in the home office and exchanges, equivalent to a $25 dollar war bond to every person making up to $50 weekly.

Other companies, to date, which will give holiday bonuses this year are Loew's, which recently announced that it was distributing one, and 20th-Fox, which was reported to be pursuing a similar bonus policy as last year.

Photoplay to Conduct Gallup Film Poll

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6. — *Photoplay Magazine* has engaged Dr. George Gallup to conduct a national audience poll to determine the nation's favorite film and most popular actor and actress and will award gold medals to the winning producer and stars. Gallup went East today.

The plan, divulged by Fred R. Samis, editorial director of the publication, at a dinner attended by studio publicity directors will be maintained annually.

Singles for Brandt

The New York Theatre, Brandt house at Times Square, will start a first-run policy on Christmas Day, playing single bills. "Naughty Marietta," M-G-M re-release, will start the new arrangement.

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Permit Unapproved Emergency Hiring

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6.—The Government's Salary Stabilization Division, in emergencies, will permit employers to hire workers without first obtaining approval of their salaries, leaving such approval to be secured later, H. L. Ducker, regional head of the Stabilization Board in Los Angeles, told the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association this week at a meeting here.

Ducker complimented the industry for its cooperation with the board and explained that normal salary increases can be given without approval. Problems and disputes can be presented to the board by any employe, he added.

A. D. Burford, deputy commissioner of the Salary Stablization Bureau in Washington, explained that the Internal Revenue Bureau may overrule wage increase approvals of the Stabilization Division, and this was corroborated by C. R. Johnston, the board's legal adviser.

F. J. Brown, head of the board's motion picture division, pointed out that the board recognizes there have gross inequalities where employes have been underpaid for a given job.

I. E. Chadwick, IMPPA president, presided at the meeting.

Loew's, Canada, Lists $99,171 Net Profit

TORONTO, Dec. 6.—Financial statement of Marcus Loew Theatres, Ltd., shows a net profit of $99,171, following full dividends for seven percent preferred shares, for the fiscal year ended Aug. 30. The profit is equal to $7.12 per share on common stock for which a $1 dividend was authorized as of Dec. 30, marking the first payment to common shareholders since 1921. Net profit for the same period last year was $95,876.

The report shows working capital of $727,691, compared with $634,129 at the close of last year. Current assets are $805,471 and liabilities, $77,780.

Court Denies Jury In Camrel Suit

Judge Henry W. Goddard in New York Federal Court yesterday denied a plea by Camrel Co., Inc., operating the Cameo, Jersey City, to transfer its anti-trust suit against eight distributors from the non-jury to the jury trial calendar. It was held that the plaintiff had failed to file its request in time.

It is charged that the defendants sold to circuits and not to the plaintiff. Damages and an injunction are sought.

Rites for Pvt. Galizia

Funeral services will be held today from his home in Brooklyn for Pvt. James J. Galizia, 23, formerly with Famous Music Corp. here, affiliated with Paramount Pictures. Pvt. Galizia sustained fatal injuries in an accident last Saturday at Spence Field, Moultrie, Ga., where he was stationed with the Army Air Forces. Surviving are his parents, three sisters and three brothers.

Skouras Cites Films' Value

(Continued from page 1)

come which will proclaim "faith, kindness and humility."

He declared that his company is following with "Winged Victory" and "Keys of the Kingdom." Army Charities will benefit from profits derived from "Victory."

Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution, completed his product talks, stressing among other films "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." He introduced W. C. Michel, executive vice-president; Joseph Moskowitz, vice-president; Sydney Towell, vice-president and treasurer; Dan Michalove, vice-president of National Theatres; Larry Kent; Felix Jenkins, secretary, and William Powers, chief counsel. Connors also introduced U. S. Navy lieutenants J. Podoloff, formerly branch manager in Minneapolis, and James Connolly, formerly Boston sales manager.

Sales managers conducted individual roundtable talks with their respective divisions, district and branch managers.

Meetings are expected to conclude either today or tomorrow with all field representatives leaving here by the weekend.

March of Time Host To 20th-Fox Delegates

Richard de Rochemont, March of Time producer, was host yesterday to 20th Century-Fox executives and field sales representatives at Hampshire House at a reception attended also by the trade press. Among those present were Tom Connors, A. W. Smith, Jr., William C. Gehring, Jack Schlaifer, Hal Horne, Charles Schlaifer and MOT representatives Howard Black, John R. Wood, Jr., D. Y. Bradshaw, Phil Williams. Also, Joseph Moskowitz, Felix Jenkins, Edgar Moss, Harry Balance, Clyde Eckhardt, Tom Gilliam and Harvey Day.

Williams, Young Are Promoted by Ross

Ruel Williams, former Pacific Coast district manager for Ross Federal Service, has been advanced to Western division manager, H. A. Ross, president announced here yesterday on his return from the Coast. O. M. Young has been advanced to Western district manager, from district manager in the Midwest.

Ross will leave in 10 days for Albany, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Southern branches.

Nizer to Address Forum

Louis Nizer of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, attorneys, will be a guest speaker at the second annual New York *Daily Mirror* 'Youth Forum' on Dec. 16 at the Hotel Astor. Nizer, author of "What To Do with Germany," will speak on "Saving the Next Generation." Harry Hershfield will be master of ceremonies.

FP-C to Pay Dividend

TORONTO, Dec. 6.—Famous Players-Canadian has declared a dividend of 37½ cents on common stock for the current quarter, to be paid Dec. 30, bringing the 1944 rate to $1.50, equal to last year's payments.

Proposes Producers Pay for Navy Aid

(Continued from page 1)

authority to expend an available $2,500,000 surplus fund to increase the number of feature film programs it buys.

The suggestion that producers should pay for Navy facilities and personnel was advanced by representative Cannon of Missouri, chairman of the House Committee, and Congressman Sheppard of California, after Capt. Reynolds of the Bureau of Naval Personnel explained that at present the Department is compensated for the use of its facilities by prints of the picture in which the facilities are used.

Over a period of a year, Reynolds said, the Navy received free prints of 10 pictures but, he pointed out, the industry also gives the Army and Navy 361 prints weekly of 16mm films without cost to the Government, saving the Navy alone an estimated $667,000 on the 106 prints of three programs a week which it receives. The making of arrangements with the industry, however, is handled by the Bureau of Navy Public Relations, in the Secretary's office, he said.

The additional $2,500,000 which the Navy asked for is to be used to increase the number of prints purchased from 23 to 28, necessitated by the expansion of Naval operations. The cost of this service, it was explained by Comm. S. L. Drumm, has increased with the use of more color prints, for which the Navy pays 9.5 cents per foot, compared with 5.5 cents for black and white.

Will Set More Wage Raise Pleas Today

Film company exchange operational officials and representatives of the IATSE will meet here today to set additional applications for filing with Regional War Labor Boards for 10 per cent wage increases for exchange service workers.

David Halper, IATSE attorney, and Bernard Goodman, Warner Bros. assistant supervisor of exchanges, have returned from Atlanta where they moved to expedite applications which have already been filed in that area and will report today on progress.

More M-G-M Office Mgrs. Here Monday

The second group of three office managers to visit the M-G-M home office, scheduled to arrive on Dec. 11, are: Joe Kronman, Washington; M. Berger, Cincinnati; Harry A. Simons, Chicago. In New York at present are: William B. Zoellner, Atlanta; Louis C. Ingram, Memphis head, who are the last M-G-M exchange managers visiting the home office.

Fowler to Wilder Jan. 2

Frank Fowler, secretary of Wilmer and Vincent circuit for the past 10 years, will join the Wilder circuit, operating theatres in Norfolk, Newport News and Portsmouth, Va., on Jan. 2. Fowler, who had been booker and buyer for W. and V., will be replaced by George Trilling as booker, and Bernie Brooks, buyer, for the amalgamated W. and V.-Fabian Theatres.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 6

THREE new productions will go before the cameras at Monogram during December, including two of the company's most important productions for 1944-45. They are: "Divorce," first Kay Francis production; "Land of the Sky Blue Water," based on the music of Charles Wakefield Cadman, and "Pitch Dark," with the East Side Kids.

•

Henry Koster has been assigned to direct "Brighton Beach," which Joe Pasternak will produce for M-G-M. . . . Bill Thomas, of the producing team of Pine-Thomas, will make his debut as a director on their next Paramount picture, "Cheezit, the Corpse." . . . Warners has renewed Jean Sullivan's contract.

•

Charles Coburn's next at Columbia will be in "Over 21," adaptation of Ruth Gordon's stage hit. Coburn will be co-starred with Irene Dunne and Alexander Knox. Sidney Buchman will produce. . . . Nana Bryant has been assigned the role of Phyllis Thaxter's mother in M-G-M's "Weekend at the Waldorf."

Support Zoning Shift In N.Y.C. Charter

A proposed City Charter amendment to empower the Board of Estimate to over-rule the City Planning Commission on zoning changes by a simple majority vote, won support yesterday from fifteen representatives of business groups at a hearing before the finance committee of the City Council.

Sponsored by Hugh Quinn, Queens Democrat, the suggested amendment would alter the charter provision which says that zoning action taken by the Planning Commission is effective within thirty days unless modified or disapproved by a three-fourths vote of the Board of Estimate. To be effective, the amendment must be approved by the Council, the Board of Estimate and by the voters in a referendum.

Zanucks Due Saturday

Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production at 20th Century-Fox, and Mrs. Zanuck, will arrive in New York on Saturday, Zanuck to speak at the fourth annual American Nobel Association dinner at the Hotel Astor on Sunday night. They will remain in New York until Dec. 20, when "Winged Victory," which Zanuck produced for 20th-Fox, in association with the U. S. Army Air Forces, will open at the Roxy Theatre here. Sam Israel of Harry Brandt's studio publicity staff, will accompany Zanuck.

Appeal Babbitt Case

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6. — The Walt Disney Studio will appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from a decision by the Circuit Court of Appeals confirming a National Labor Relations Board directive ordering the re-employment of Art Babbitt, animator, who claimed his discharge in 1941 was due to his union activities.

THE MOST SOUGHT-AFT

IN ALL THE WORLD

Life with Fath

WILL COME TO YO

T PLAY

er

FROM

(seated) Major Albert Warner, signing, and Warner attorney; (standing l. to r.) Mrs. Clarence Day; Howard Lindsay; Russel Crouse; attorney for play; Oscar Serlin

"We have made pictures of many and many a Broadway hit. This time we will be accomplishing much more than the making of a motion picture from a successful play.

"The importance of 'Life with Father' goes far beyond that of a successful play. It is an American institution. And as an entertainment, it is one of the rarest and most sought-after treasures of our time.

"Now in the sixth year of its engagement with a gross close to $8,000,000, it will remain forever one of the landmark-events in the history of the theatre.

"The play's producer Oscar Serlin, its authors Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, and Mrs. Clarence Day, upon whose late husband's sketches this record-shattering comedy is based, all know that the responsibility and the opportunity to make 'Life with Father' a Warner Bros. Picture is one we all look to with much anticipation. I expect it to out-gross any film yet made."

J. L. Warner,
Executive Producer

WARNERS

New Building Code Drafted by Feb. 1

(*Continued from page* 1)

meeting will be held Friday, Dec. 15. Representatives of the film industry on the committee include: Henry Anderson, Paramount; Martin J. Tracey, Century Circuit; Theodore Junge, alternate for Harry Moskowitz, Loew's, and Glen H. Humphrey of projectionists' Local 337.

However, some provisions of the revised regulations are expected to cause controversy in exhibition, among them those which provide that every theatre with a stage in the State, except in New York City, must have a fire curtain of steel frame with an automatic lowering device; and those which provide that emergency stairways (fire escapes) higher than 10 feet must be enclosed by fireproof construction and those decreeing that counterbalanced fire escapes attached to the building outside are prohibited. The first mentioned would have to be complied with within one year of the date the code went into effect. Generally, the revised code would require compliance within two years from the date of adoption.

It has been predicted that the provisions would affect hundreds of theatres in smaller cities and towns and in many instances it would have the practical effect of closing small theatres permanently. Since New York building codes are widely referred to by authorities in other states in drawing up their building regulations, the code is seen as having significance to exhibitors elsewhere.

Review

"Destiny"

(*Universal*)

"DESTINY," in its 65 minutes of playing time, runs the gamut from straight gangster thriller to a fable on regeneration, with resulting bewilderment. The transition from a tough, fast-moving thriller, depicting Alan Curtis as an innocent who has twice been implicated in crimes, to idyllic sequences between Curtis and Gloria Jean, playing a straight role as a sensitive, blind girl who is instrumental in purging Curtis of any impulse to do wrong, is difficult to follow. Fault seems to lie with Roy Chanslor's and Ernest Pascal's screen play.

Players Gloria Jean, Frank Craven, as her father; Curtis, Grace McDonald, Vivian Austin, Frank Fenton and Minna Gombell, struggle under the handicap of an inept script. Reginald Le Borg's direction does manage to extract several suspenseful sequences, outstanding of which is a dream sequence conveying a strong sense of realism. The parts are more interesting than the whole as the sharp break in mood militates against the film. Roy William Neill was associate director. Photography by George Robinson and Paul Ivano is notably successful in the latter part where their cameras are permitted to roam over beautiful country.

Running time, 65 minutes. "G."* Release date, Dec. 22.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

DeMille Enjoins Afra To Prevent Ouster

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6.—Cecil B. DeMille, through his attorney, Neil S. McCarthy, was scheduled today to file an injunction suit to prevent the American Federation of Radio Artists from suspending him for refusal to pay a $1 political-action assessment. The producer has been given until Monday to pay the fee or become ineligible to appear on his $5,000-a-week radio program.

Claude McCue, Afra executive secretary, said the suit would be fought.

'You' and 'Bluebeard' Good at $13,000

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 6.—Holdovers are occupying most downtown houses but at the Majestic, which opened a new show with "The Very Thought of You" and "Bluebeard," grossed $13,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 7:

"None but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd wek. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,800).

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $10,500).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $17,700).

"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"Bluebeard" (PRC)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,100).

"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Majestic. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $4,000).

"Swing Hostess" (PRC)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. On stage: Terry La Franconi, Lynn and Lane, Lamarr and Poppy, Bennie George, Hal Rawin, Woolford's Dogs. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $6,500).

"Machine Gun Mama" (PRC)
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (60c-75c) 3 days. On stage: Charlie Spivak's orchestra. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,900).

Ben Bernie Leaves $306,167 Estate

Ben Bernie, "The Old Maestro" of screen, stage and radio, who died in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Oct. 23, 1943, left a gross estate of $435,999 and a net of $306,167, according to an appraisal filed yesterday.

After making bequests of $2,000 to the Federation of Jewish Charities, $1,000 to the Jewish Theatrical Guild and $500 to Catholic Charities Bernie made specific cash bequests to his six sisters, four brothers, a nephew and six friends. His widow, Mrs. Dorothy Wesley Bernie, received $10,000 outright and $50,000 in trust, while his son, Jason Bernie, received $10,000 outright and $75,000 in trust.

Six Theatre Fires

ATLANTA, Dec. 6.—In the past two weeks there have been six theatre fires, in an 'epidemic' seemingly sweeping the area. The latest was at the Blakely, Blakely, Ga.

St. Louis' Strike Hits 30 Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

Webster Groves, and the Osage and Kirkwood in Kirkwood.

Federal Judge Rubey M. Hulen today denied the injunction sought by the Kirkwood theatre to force distributors to perform their contracts, on the ground that the issuance of an injunction would affect the right of employees to strike.

The Ambassador theatre attempted to open this morning, but 250 patrons were refunded their money when operators refused to show a Fox news reel and a Paramount short subject. Involved in the strike so far are approximately 78 employees.

Samuel Komm, operator of a circuit here, declared, "The strike is the worst thing I have heard of in my 25 years in show business. The three theatres involved can operate, and we, who have always cooperated with the union 100 per cent, are forced to close."

Harry C. Arthur, Jr., general manager of Fanchon & Marco, charged that the unions have violated their contract by striking without two weeks' notice, and have also violated the 'No-Strike' pledge. He pointed out that theatre owners have no opportunity to negotiate in the dispute, and repeated the charge that the strike is prejudicing theatres' participation in the Sixth War Loan Drive, although theatres are keeping their bond booths open, and will honor tickets of bond purchasers when theatres are re-opened. Some neighborhood theatres, which were closed, have reopened by substituting films not on the 'unfair' list.

Walsh Assigns Snow To Probe Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

their own initiative in calling a strike against film exchanges there, resulting in the shutting off of film service to several theatres without IATSE authorization, they have violated their IATSE charters and face possible charter revocation.

Walsh indicated here yesterday that the investigation of IATSE vice-president Snow will possibly disclose whether the two exchange locals have grievances of their own or whether they are supporting IATSE projectionists' Local No. 143 in its controversy with some theatres for using non-IA operators.

The IATSE exchange locals, it is understood, are not obligated to handle film to be delivered to any theatre where a labor dispute exists.

IATSE officials here discount the possibility of a spread of the strike to other film exchange cities where some non-IATSE projectionists are employed.

Hirliman Purchases Gutlohn 16mm Firm

George A. Hirliman has purchased the Gutlohn 16mm film company. Hirliman recently announced plans for entering the 16mm business, to take over educational and commercial films.

Hirliman is negotiating deals which will give him producing facilities on both coasts.

21 WORDS THAT SPELL CHRISTMAS BOND SALES!

•

PUT THIS MESSAGE IN YOUR 6th WAR LOAN LOBBY

"The War Bonds You buy this Christmas Speed the Christmas when you may say— Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men"

•

Ross Federal Service, Inc.

'Bowery' on Dual Gives L.A. $60,500

Los Angeles, Dec. 6.—The only new offering in a week of holdovers, "Bowery to Broadway" and "The Last Ride," grossed $60,500 at the Chinese-Loew's State-Fox-Wilshire-Uptown combination. Among the holdovers, "And Now Tomorrow" did the best business, getting $32,250 in its second week at the two Paramount theatres. "The Doughgirls," in its second week at the three Warner theatres, got $43,386.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 6:

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $12,700. (Average: $14,900).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,500. Average: $15,000).

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
FOX-WILSHIRE — (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $10,500).

"Strange Affair" (Col.)
"Underground Guerrillas" (Col.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $2,600. (Average: $5,700).

"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,500).

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $29,300).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $25,000).

"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,300).

"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,250. (Average: $11,900).

"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,500).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $12,500).

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $10,500).

"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,256. (Average: $16,700).

"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,343. (Average: $18,700).

"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $12,787. (Average: $15,800).

Bodec to Join Blue Web

Ben Bodec, formerly of the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency here, and Columbia Pictures, will join the Blue Network on Dec. 18 as an associate of Stanley Josseloff, national director of talent and program development.

Hicks on FP-C Board

Toronto, Dec. 6.—John W. Hicks, Jr., has been elected to the board of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., succeeding Stanton W. Griffis, now in Hawaii with the American Red Cross. Hicks is president of Paramount International Films, Inc., New York.

Review

"Firebrands of Arizona"

(*Republic*)

Hollywood, Dec. 6

COMEDY values are stressed in this Sunset Carson-Smiley Burnette Western. Major acting role falls to Smiley, who portrays, by turns, a desperado named "Beefsteak Biscoe," and the more familiar character of 'Frog.'

Randall Faye's original screenplay is a sprightly tale of a hypochondriac cowboy with imaginary ills. He is mistaken for a bandit, and narrowly escapes hanging. Gunplay and good riding come into the plot, but the action scenes are subordinated to the comedy, and very good comedy it is, too. The customers of Hollywood's Hitching Post Theatre, who are experienced judges of this sort of fare, laughed heartily throughout the picture.

Lesley Selander's direction is more subtle than that usually given low-budget product, and in his hands the proceedings are fast and funny. Earl Hodgins adds to the merriment in the role of the sheriff. Peggy Steward provides a touch of femininity. Lou Gray was the associate producer.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date, Dec. 1. THALIA BELL

"G" denotes general classification.

'Boys' in Baltimore Grosses $12,500

Baltimore, Dec. 6.—Holdovers predominate first-run programs this week; as a result, boxoffice figures are average. Of the newcomers, "Something for the Boys" is doing well at the New Theatre, where it opened strong and, with only a 1,581 seating capacity scored $12,500 in its first seven days.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 7:

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,000).

"The Man in Half Moon Street" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 4 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,000).

"The Doughgirls" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,000).

"Together Again" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage show: Georgie Kaye, Marion Colby, Stan Kramer, Six Marvelettes, Coleman Clark and Bob Anderson. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,500).

"Brazil" (Rep.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).

Radio Executive Club Honors BBC for Aid

Warren Jennings, president of the Radio Executives Club of New York, presented to John Salt, North American director of the British Broadcasting Corp., a scroll honoring BBC's "unstinting cooperation with American networks and independent stations", at a luncheon at the Roosevelt Hotel here yesterday.

Lord Halifax, British Ambassador, and Elmer Davis, director of the U. S. Office of War Information, were among the speakers. William J. Haley, BBC director general, short-waved an address from England.

Stitt, Winston Return

Ralph Stitt and Al Winston, 20th Century-Fox field exploitation representatives under Rodney Bush, exploitation manager, have returned to their respective exchange posts to begin work on "Winged Victory" campaigns. Stitt covers New Haven and Albany, and Winston, Chicago.

Theatre Opens Dec. 25

Lake City, Tenn., Dec. 6.—L. T. Hutchins and N. A. Leach will open the Howard Theatre, here, on Dec. 25.

Rathvon Picks Aides For Red Cross Drive

(*Continued from page 1*)

berger of RKO Radio will function as national campaign director, and S. Barret McCormick and Harry Mandel, advertising and publicity heads, respectively, of RKO Radio and RKO Theatres, respectfully, will direct publicity and promotions.

Rathvon is currently on the Coast where he is setting up arrangements with studio heads for Hollywood's participation in the campaign. Upon his return to New York he is expected to announce the names of industry leaders who will head various committees representing exhibition, production, and distribution.

Blizzard Blows Hard in Toronto

Toronto, Dec. 6. — "Bowery to Broadway," at the Uptown, appears headed for the highest boxoffice ratio during a week that saw the first blizzard, dangerous streets and the start of the Christmas shopping rush.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 7:

"Secret Command" (Col.)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000).

"None but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $12,800).

"Abroad With Two Yanks" (UA)
"Song of the Open Road" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $10,700. (Average: $11,200).

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $12,800).

"Secret Command" (Col.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,800).

FWC Names Laurent

Los Angeles, Dec. 6.— Fox West Coast has named Jules Laurent, former Pasadena city manager, to the managership of district No. 5, succeeding W. C. Ricord, Jr., recently named assistant to Harold Fitzgerald of National Theatres' Wisconsin division. Simultaneously, Dick Smith, San Diego manager, was appointed to the managership of a newly created district embracing San Diego, El Centro, Claexico and Pacific Beach.

'Handel' to English Films

English Films, here, has acquired reissue distribution rights in the U. S. for the British film, "The Great Mr. Handel."

SAFE...AND SOUND!

That's the kind of security you want for your home, for your family — for your business! And that's where Altec comes in! An Altec *two-way* contract gives year-round protection for your sound and projection equipment. Catches trouble before it starts—and when breakdowns occur, an Altec specialist knows how to smooth troubles away!

ALTEC SERVICE CORPORATION

250 West 57th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Leslie Fenton PRODUCES

A TRULY GREAT MOTION PICTURE — with a PRIZE-WINNING CAST

A totally different kind of story brings you a new entertainment thrill — with a dramatic impact that will startle the world! A story which might happen to you . . . to your family . . . in your home . . . in your town tomorrow!

TOMORROW-THE WORLD!

STARRING

FREDRIC MARCH ★ BETTY FIELD

with AGNES MOOREHEAD

JOAN CARROLL

AND THE SENSATIONAL SKIPPY HOMEIER

"I am Emil—watch out for me!"

Directed by LESLIE FENTON

Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

Based on the PRIZE-WINNING PLAY which thrilled Broadway audiences for 14 months

BONDS BUY HAPPINESS. SELL AN EXTRA ONE TODAY!

By the same producer who will bring you Ernie Pyle's "G. I. J

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 110 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1944 | TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE

Bob Hope Wins Radio Poll for 4th Year in Row

Again Chosen by Editors In Ninth Annual Vote

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

"Again and again and again!"

Bob Hope, "The Boy with the Pepsodent Smile" has been re-elected radio's "Champion of Champions" for a fourth term by newspaper radio editors and critics of the United States and Canada, voting in MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S ninth annual radio poll, conducted on behalf of *Fame*.

Bob Hope

Hope and comedy are synonymous, is the verdict of the editors. They reelected him "Best Comedian on the Air" and voted his NBC Pepsodent show "The Best Comedy Show on the Air," in addition to giving him the top designation, Champion of Champions. Members of the Armed Forces have repeatedly voiced the same opinion; also, Hope ranks high among the top money-making stars at the nation's motion picture theatre box offices.

Comedian Alan Young, the Bristol-Myers 'salesman' on the Blue Network, was voted radio's "Most Promising Star of Tomorrow" by the radio scribes. Several film companies are understood to have made him offers and the coming year might find him working in films as well as for radio. Jack Carson, who has already carved a niche for himself in films, was sec-

(Continued on Page 7)

79 Poll Winners

Complete tabular results of *Motion Picture Daily's* ninth annual poll of Radio Champions appears on Page 8, this issue. There are 79 names of persons and programs in the winning positions of 25 personnel and program classifications.

Burrows Slated to Set New Raw Stock Quotas Next Week

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Final meetings with Army and Navy representatives on raw stock allocations for the first quarter of 1945, will be held over the weekend by Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the War Production Board Photographic Section, and definite figures on the availability of film for the motion picture industry during the coming three months may be forthcoming within a week.

At the moment, Burrows said today, it was impossible to forecast just what the allocations would be, but while there is not the faintest possibility of an increase, every effort will be made to avoid a cut from present levels. In other quarters, however, it was believed that allocations for the coming quarter will provide only the minimum necessary amounts for the various claimants, although it was said this would not necessarily entail a cut for the industry. Claimants other than the industry, which must plan ahead, and the military services,

(Continued on page 3)

PRC Product Set by Feb.

PRC will complete its entire 1944-45 program by the end of February, according to an announcement yesterday by Leon Fromkess, president, in Hollywood, and issued from the company's home office here. To accomplish this, the company will launch the heaviest production schedule in its history, starting Jan. 1st, it was said.

Six pictures are scheduled to start during January and four will go into production in February, plus two others listed for 1945-46. In addition, PRC will produce during January and

(Continued on page 4)

Sam Pinanski Seen Heading 7th Drive

Boston, Dec. 7.—Sam Pinanski, Paramount circuit partner, with M. J. Mullin, in M. and P. Theatres, operating in five New England states, will head the industry's Seventh War Loan drive, it was learned here today. Harry Browning, M. and P. director of promotional activities, will, it appears likely, handle promotion and public relations for the drive, tentatively set for next February or March.

War Activities Committee officials were not available for comment on the foregoing report when it reached here late last night.

Rank Control Is Formalized

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Dec. 7.—J. Arthur Rank gave a dinner here last night for all of his many production and distribution executives, at which he formally announced full details of his plan to center control of production of all of his various companies' production, at the same time announcing the establishment of Production Ad-

(Continued on page 4)

Rubin Names 30 for Willkie Memorial

J. Robert Rubin, chairman of the amusement division of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, has named Spyros Skouras chairman of the committee for the memorial luncheon for the late Wendell L.

(Continued on page 3)

St. Louis Film Strike Hits More Theatres

Only 2 Exchanges Open As 40 Houses Close

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 7.—Film exchange employes at the M-G-M exchange here went out on strike today as the local walkout spread and closed approximately 40 theatres in St. Louis and St. Louis County.

Loew's State and Orpheum opened with new and moveover bills but the unions explained that the pictures were delivered before the M-G-M strike was called. The Shubert also opened with a moveover Paramount film from the Ambassador under the same ruling. The 4,000-seat St. Louis Theatre closed Wednesday night, leaving the Fox and the Shubert as the

(Continued on page 4)

Justice Dept. Probes Equipment Charges

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The Department of Justice is investigating complaints of anti-trust violation filed against companies producing motion picture equipment, but officials of the Department today declined to name the companies and said the matter is as yet nothing more than the routine investigation which is made whenever a complaint is filed.

A spokesman for the Department

(Continued on page 3)

Academy to Screen Films for Voters

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7.—All films nominated for Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences awards, whether for the best picture or because they represent writing, directing or acting jobs nominated for awards, will be screened for the voters at the Marquis Theatre during the two weeks prior to the balloting,

(Continued on page 8)

Companies Continue AAA Support, $25,000 Monthly

Distributors who are party to the decree have continued to send in funds monthly to the American Arbitration Association to cover tribunal operating costs which are estimated to be some $300,000 yearly, running about $25,000 a month. Although Dec. 1 saw the beginning of the AAA's new fiscal year, distributors sent in their money as usual without a new appropriation having been voted by the budget committee. This committee, which consists of three members, one representative each from the appeal board, the AAA and the distributors, now has only two members. George Alger represents the appeal board, Wesley Sturges, the AAA. Joseph Hazen formerly was

(Continued on page 4)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Night Club Girl" appears on page 3; "The Adventures of Kitty O'Day," page 9.

Personal Mention

HARRY WARNER, president of Warners, will leave for the Coast today.

•

CHARLES SKOURAS will entrain from the Coast Dec. 15 for the "March of Dimes" conference in Washington, after which he will come to New York for the Christmas holidays. ROBERT H. POOLE will leave for the East by train Dec. 14, spending a day in New York before attending the Washington conference.

•

JOHN CUNNINGHAM of Warners' advertising copy staff in New York, and MRS. CUNNINGHAM, are parents of a son, born yesterday at French Hospital. They have two other children.

•

JACK KIRBY, Paramount district manager in Atlanta, will leave there soon for Florida because of ill health.

•

DAVE PRINCE, Southeastern division manager for RKO, has returned to Atlanta from Charlotte.

•

LESTER KRIEGER and ELLIS SHIPMAN of Warner Theatres, Philadelphia, are in New York.

•

F. E. PIERPOINT, manager for Paramount in Brazil, will arrive here by plane tomorrow.

•

WILLIAM ERBB, Paramount's Eastern division manager, is visiting in New Orleans.

•

HARRY GRAHAM, Southern district manager for Universal, is visiting the home office.

•

AL DAFF, Universal foreign supervisor, returned this week from England.

•

SALLY DORF of Modern Film Corp. will marry LOUIS SPERGEL on Sunday.

•

JAY EISENBERG of Loew's legal department, left yesterday for Miami.

State Dept. Change Delays MPSA Meet

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7. — The special meeting of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, scheduled for tonight with a view to discussing the possible future establishment of the organization as a permanent industry institution, has been postponed until January. The postponement was decided upon because of the possibility that the appointment of Nelson Rockefeller, Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, as Assistant Secretary of State may affect the plans for the CIAA, with which the society functions as industry liaison.

Friars' Frolic Dec. 17

Annual Friars' Club Frolic this year will be staged at the Imperial Theatre, here, on Sunday evening, Dec. 17. Mike Todd is abbot of the Friars.

Million in a Day For Federation

The film and amusement division of the current drive in behalf of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, together with the various other divisions, will seek on Tuesday to collect $1,000,000 in that single day, in a citywide door-to-door and office-to-office canvass.

David Bernstein and Albert Warner are co-chairmen of the drive's film and amusements division, and Eugene Picker and Harold Rodner are campaign co-directors.

Scully Opens 'U' Meet Here Today

Universal's Mid-winter conference of sales executives and district managers will open at the Astor Hotel here today, continuing through Sunday, with two sessions scheduled each day. W. A. Scully, general sales manager and vice-president, will preside, discussing the soon-to-be-released Deanna Durbin color picture, "Can't Help Singing," at both morning and afternoon sessions today.

Tomorrow, Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal, will address the meeting and will outline future plans and policies. Others who will address the meeting are: E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager, and Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director.

Others attending are: Fred Meyers, Eastern sales manager; F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern sales manager; A. J. O'Keefe, Western sales manager; E. L. McEvoy, short subjects manager, and district managers David A. Levy, John J. Scully, M. M. Gottlieb, Joe E. Garrison, Dave Miller, H. D. Graham, C. J. Feldman, P. F. Rosian, Salem Applegate and F. T. Murray, and J. J. Jordan of the home office.

Lasky Sees Columbia UA, WB on Releases

Jesse L. Lasky has been in conference with Columbia and United Artists officials since his arrival in New York in connection with releasing arrangements for the four $1,000,000 productions he is planning to start in April, his publicists announced yesterday. It is understood that Lasky also had conferences with Warner executives, that company constituting his last affiliation.

Lasky will be in New York for a month buying story properties and arranging for the financing of plays.

Owen to Conferences

Hugh Owen, general sales manager for David O. Selznick Enterprises and Vanguard Films, will leave today for Chicago and the West Coast. He will talk with circuit heads while en route and at the Coast will view new product and confer with Selznick.

Double Taxation Pact Is Ratified

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The Senate yesterday picked up a five-year-old treaty on which action had been suspended because of the war, and without a record vote ratified a convention signed in Paris on July 25, 1939, for the avoidance of double taxation.

The French treaty is the first of a series of agreements by which the Administration hopes to solve the problem raised by foreign taxation of operations of American companies.

The convention provides specifically that American enterprises having permanent establishments in France shall be taxed the same as French enterprises, and when an American company participates in the management or capital of a French enterprise its profits also shall be taxable the same as those of its French partners.

However, it was provided, "royalties derived from within one of the contracting states by a resident or by a corporation or other entity of the other contracting state as consideration for the right to use copyrights—shall be exempt from taxation in the former state, provided such resident, corporation or other entity does not have a permanent establishment there."

The provision for the tax exemption of copyrights is expected to be the pattern for similar provisions in the other agreements which the Administration has in mind.

Music Hall Pageant Aids Yeshiva Fund

The production staff of Radio City Music Hall, through arrangements with G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director, will stage an entertainment and religious pageant at the annual dinner of Yeshiva College, Dec. 10, at the Hotel Astor. Proceeds will go to the college scholarship fund.

Feature of the entertainment will be a pageant entitled "Chanukah — The Sabbath of the World," in observation of the beginning of the holiday week of Chanukah.

MGM May Produce 'Leo' Color Series

M-G-M may make a cartoon series in color of "Leo the Lion," based on an idea by Si Seadler, home office advertising manager. A one-reeler, "Leo Masters Spanish," made with a view toward interesting the Latin and American market, and with the script written by Seadler, proved successful and company executives now expect to make a series for U. S. release.

Loew Stock Leaps Following Dividend

Following Loew's announcement on Wednesday of a plan to cancel all authorized preferred stock and increased the authorized common from 4,000,000 to 6,000,000 shares, the company's stock leaped to a new high of 78¾ on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday.

Coming Events

Dec. 10—Annual renewal of Legion of Decency pledge in Roman Catholic churches throughout the country.

Dec. 10—Fourth Annual American Nobel Anniversary dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.

Dec. 11 — Launching of Liberty Ship, *SS. M. E. Comerford*, Brunswick, Ga.

Dec. 11-12 — Television Broadcasters Association meeting, Hotel Commodore, New York.

Dec. 13—Picture Pioneers' annual dinner, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

Dec. 14-20—Theatre drive for National War Fund.

Dec. 14—Associated Motion Picture Advertisers meeting, New York.

Dec. 15—Sales Executives Club and Chamber of Commerce dinner for Warner executives, Albany, N. Y.

Dec. 19—Allied of New Jersey annual Christmas dinner, Ritz Restaurant, Passaic.

Dec. 19—Industry leaders to attend White House conference on 'March of Dimes' campaign, Washington.

Jan. 2-6 — Annual meeting of M-G-M field auditors, Hotel Astor, New York.

Jan. 21-22—Theatre Owners Association of North and South Carolina meeting, Charlotte.

WLB Approves Wage Boosts in Cleveland

The Regional War Labor Board having jurisdiction over the Cleveland area has approved a system of job classification with minimum and maximum wage scales and wage increases up to 10 per cent for the office workers in the Cleveland film exchanges, represented by the IATSE.

Film company exchange supervisors and representatives of the IATSE met here yesterday to set additional applications for filing with Regional WLB's for approval of 10 per cent wage increases for exchange service workers.

20th-Fox Concludes 5-Day Meeting Today

Twentieth Century-Fox today will conclude its five-day sales conference with final meetings conducted by sales managers for their field representatives at the home office.

Yesterday's meetings at the home office were addressed by John Wood, Jr., March of Time sales manager; Phil Williams, MOT advertising and publicity director, and William Clark, 20th-Fox's short subject sales manager.

'Caballeros' in Mexico

World premiere of Walt Disney's color feature, "The Three Caballeros," will be held in Mexico City, Dec. 21, at the Alameda Theatre, RKO announced here yesterday.

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Republic, 'U' Buy Million in Bonds

H. J. Yates, Republic president, has purchased $500,000 in bonds for the Sixth War Loan Drive on behalf of Republic, the industry's national drive committee was informed yesterday. The sum was allocated to branches throughout the country, with New York buying $44,500 of the bonds.

Hollywood, Dec. 7.—Universal today made a $500,000 corporate bond purchase and announced the additional purchase of $75,000 worth by employes of the company.

Hellman Closes Deal For Four Re-issues

Marcel Hellman will leave for London over the weekend, after having closed a deal with English Films, Ltd., for the re-issue of three Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., pictures, and "Crime Over London."

Hellman also purchased some story properties while here. English Films will represent him in this country.

Review

"Night Club Girl"

(Universal)

A MINOR, tongue-in-cheek variation on the musical-comedy success-story theme manages here to whip up a good deal of frenzied merriment, some of which will be shared by the audience; but the characters, plot and dialogue are so belabored beyond all resemblance to life that the cream of the jest goes pretty sour.

The idea is that the dancing of the little girl from Windebaggo fails to take the Sunset Club in Hollywood by storm but that she finds fame and fortune through revealing there her mother's recipe for soupy hash. Vivian Austin is the babe-in-the-woods, teaming with Billy Dunn as her brother. Edward Norris, columnist, takes them under his wing and sneaks them into the floor show past Maxie Rosenbloom, proprietor of the club. They are somewhat overshadowed by the Mulcays, Paula Drake and especially the Delta Rhythm Boys before Miss Austin gets around to overshadowing Leon Belasco, the chef.

Frank Gross was associate producer. Eddie Cline directed without restraint from a script based by Henry Blankfort and Dick Irving Hyland on Adele Comandini's original yarn.

Running time, 61 minutes. "G."* Release date, Jan. 5.

TOM LOY

"G" denotes general classification.

Meiselman to Build

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 7.—H. B. Meiselman, owner of a circuit in this territory, has purchased the Roosevelt Hotel property here preparatory to erecting a theatre when materials are available. Cost of the property and the new house call for approximately $250,000.

Harmon Calls Films Vital War Weapon

"The motion picture camera is the fourth most important factor in the winning of the war and ranks just behind radar, amphibious landing craft and the super-bomber," Francis S. Harmon, vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee, told a gathering of 300 at a Rotary Club luncheon yesterday at the Hotel Commodore.

Harmon, a lieutenant of infantry in World War 1, told the audience that "total wars are fought with cameras as well as cannon, and planes drop propaganda leaflets as well as bombs." He cited a remark made by the commanding general of the Armed Forces in Iceland, stating that "films are as necessary as food" to his men.

"Motion picture film is made from the same materials as smokeless powder and manufacturers can't begin to meet the demands from civilians and the Armed Forces," Harmon said.

Harmon said that the "good neighbor policy has been aided tremendously by films in that we have recorded an accurate job of locale, history, music and people, and that an increase of 250 per cent has been made in the Latin-American themes shown in our newsreels."

Rubin Names 30 for Willkie Memorial

(*Continued from page* 1)

Willkie, to be held at the Hotel Astor, here, on Dec. 15.

Rubin has also named a committee of 30 who will work with Skouras on the memorial luncheon. They include Jack Alicoate, Barney Balaban, Harry Brandt, Leo Brecher, Jules Brulatour, Ned Depinet, Walter Green, Francis Harmon, Will Hays, Marcus Heiman, Joseph Hornstein, Malcolm Kingsberg, Edward Noble, John O'Connor, Charles O'Reilly, Brock Pemberton, Ralph Poucher, Martin Quigley, Herman Robbins, Jack Robbins, William Rodgers, David Ross, Gradwell Sears, Lee Shubert, Skouras, Nate Spingold, Harry Thomas, Walter Vincent, Albert Warner and David Weinstock.

Cigarettes to Bond Buyers in Phila.!

Philadelphia, Dec. 7.—Al Lipman, manager of the Ambassador, neighborhood house here, pulled a 'Free Movie Day' rabbit out of the hat this afternoon and tonight. For every bond purchaser he will provide a slip entitling him to buy one full carton of his favorite brand of cigarettes. The rare offer was made possible through a tie-up with the Warner Cut Rate Store, which provided enough cartons for 2,000 persons.

India Is Hopeful on Equipment Quotas

M. Akbar Fazalbhoy, managing director of the RCA Photophone Equipments, Ltd., Bombay, is confident that new theatre equipment quotas will be granted for exports to India by the Foreign Economic Administration in order to relieve the critical equipment situation facing India's 1,700 theatres, he disclosed at a press interview at the Hotel Commodore here yesterday.

Fazalbhoy, who came here from India to attend the recent International Business Conference, also represents the Indian film industry. India's postwar program, he said, calls for 10,000 theatres and mobile units to bring films to all urban and rural centers. Native film production will be increased from the current total of 160 films in 15 languages to an estimated 300 feature films yearly, in addition to 104 instructional shorts and 52 weekly newsreels. Studios and theatre equipment factories projected for postwar construction will need the assistance of American technicians, Fazalbhoy added.

Producers are restricted to films of 11,000 feet length, Fazalbhoy said, because of the lack of raw stock, most of which is received from the U. S. Native films receive 70 per cent of total playing time, with American pictures capturing most of the remaining 30 per cent devoted to foreign product, he said.

Justice Dept. Probes Equipment Charges

(*Continued from page* 1)

said that "several" complaints have been received but did not divulge the grounds on which they were based.

The inquiries now being made are the routine studies on which, if they indicate a possibility that complaints are well founded, the detailed surveys on which a case may be based are initiated. No reports have yet been received, it was said.

Raw Stock Allocation To Be Set Next Week

(*Continued from page* 1)

which can take no chances, might be asked to defer other than immediate needs until the raw stock manufacturing plants in France and Holland, which are ready to go except for coal, get into operation—when they could have film released here by the Army—which would use some of the European production.

NEW YORK THEATRES

HELD OVER 4th WEEK
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647 REPUBLIC THEATER B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
Irene DUNNE + Charles BOYER
'TOGETHER AGAIN'
with Charles Coburn
A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

CARMEN MIRANDA — MICHAEL O'SHEA
VIVIAN BLAINE
"SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
JIMMY SAVO — MILDRED BAILEY
—Plus On Stage—
EXTRA! PEARL PRIMUS
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

NOW PLAYING AT MUSIC HALL
HELD OVER SECOND WEEK
Extra! EXCLUSIVE AND TRUE!
THE NEW MARCH OF TIME
INSIDE CHINA TODAY

VICTORIA
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
WILSON
20 CENTURY FOX PICTURE
IN TECHNICOLOR

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
CARY GRANT
IN
"None But the Lonely Heart"
WITH
MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE
BARRY FITZGERALD

Alan Ladd ★ Loretta Young
in PARAMOUNT'S
"AND NOW TOMORROW"
In Person
GLEN GRAY
and the
Casa Loma Orchestra
ANDY RUSSELL
JERI SULIAVAN
SON & SONNY
WALLY BROWN and
ALAN CARNEY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

STATE
ON SCREEN
First N. Y. Showing!
'CAROLINA BLUES'
Kay Kyser • Ann Miller
Victor Moore
IN PERSON
MILT BRITTON
and ORCH.
HARRY SAVOY

'Something for the Boys' in Phila. Pulls Big $23,000

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 7.—Business in downtown houses remains dull, with holdovers and second runs predominating. The only major opening, "Something for the Boys," at the Fox, points to $23,000, with an additional $3,000 already taken in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 6-8:

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $14,600).

"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $18,000).

"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox) 6 days
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (40c-50c-85c-95c). Six days of vaudeville, including Johnny Long's band, Mary Lou Wilson, Tommy Morgan, Lew Hoffman, Sibyl Bowan. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $27,600).

"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,500).

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $6,600).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,800).

"The Doughgirls" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,900. (Average: $22,500).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $20,000).

"The Master Race" (RKO)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $9,400).

PRC '44-45 Program Set by February

(*Continued from page* 1)

February four Westerns, two each starring Buster Crabbe, and two co-starring Dave O'Brien and Tex Ritter.

The six January features include: "Phantom of Forty-second Street," Al Herman, associate producer; "Swamp Man," an Edgar Ulmer production; "Deadline"; "Detour," Martin Mooney as associate producer; "Undercover Girl" and "Fire Patrol," both Alexander-Stern productions.

The four productions for February include: the Leon Fromkess production, "Queen of Burlesque"; "The Wife of Monte Crisco"; I. E. Chadwick production; "Murder in Spades," a Harry Gourfain production, and "White Gorilla," a Sigmund Neufeld attraction.

The two for the 1945-46 program are: "I Ring Doorbells," Russell Birdwell novel; another Fromkess production, with Martin Mooney as associate producer, and "Heritage," also a Fromkess production, with Herman Boxer as associate.

Fourteen regular features and 12 Westerns already have been completed for 1944-45, of an announced program of 24 features and 16 Westerns.

McKay and Ferris Give Best Radio Press Service, Editors Say

RADIO EDITORS of newspapers of the United States and Canada, voting in ***Motion Picture Daily's*** ninth annual radio poll, conducted on behalf of ***Fame***, Quigley Publishing Company's annual roster of motion picture and radio talent and talent in related fields, voted the press department here of National Broadcasting Co., headed by John McKay, as the network which gives them the 'Best Publicity Service' repeating their selection of last year. They also reelected the office headed by Earle Ferris as the individual publicity office which likewise gives them the 'Best Publicity Service'.

John McKay

Earle Ferris

Polling of the nation's radio editors to determine their choices in publicity services rendered was first instituted as part of the ***Motion Picture Daily-Fame*** poll last year and was continued this year. Results of the balloting follow:

NETWORK PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS

FIRST PLACE:
National Broadcasting Company,
John McKay, Manager of Press Department.

SECOND PLACE:
Columbia Broadcasting System,
George Crandall, Director of Publicity.

INDIVIDUAL PUBLICITY OFFICES

FIRST PLACE:
Earle Ferris.

SECOND PLACE:
Tom Fizdale, Inc.

Community Circuit Planned by K-B

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 7.—Zoning permits have been granted for the erection of the first of a series of community projects planned by Fred Kogod Enterprises revolving around film theatres by the Kogod-Burka Circuit, it was disclosed here today by Frank Boucher, general manager of that Washington theatre circuit. The first project will get under way in Southwest Washington as soon as priorities permit.

More than $1,000,000 will be spent for this new type of community venture, which will be centered around a 1,000-seat motion picture theatre embodying provisions for television, and to be named the Southern. John Zink, architect, already has completed plans for another K-B house, the Avon, in Southeast Washington.

The Southern Theatre will be the center of a new area developed since the war. The planned project, which will cover an entire city block, will include parking lots, shops, recreation center and other aspects of full community life. More than 3,000 apartments already are in this war-developed area which is assured of permanency by the recently-completed Bellevue Experimental Station built for the Navy and designed for post-war use as a permanent Navy unit.

Ignacius Frusucki Dies

HOBART, Ind., Dec. 7. — Ignacius Frusucki, 53, operator of the Art and Strand theatres here, died yesterday. He is survived by three sons and his widow, who will operate the theatres.

Discrimination Bill Hearings Are Set

ALBANY, Dec. 7.—The State Commission Against Discrimination has set seven public hearings on two pending bills which would affect industry, including the film business, and labor unions and employment agencies in this and other industries. The first meeting, last week, highlighted disagreement over the length the Board of Regents had gone in invoking a teaching program of tolerance and anti-discrimination.

The bills set forth public policies against employment discrimination on race, creed, color or national origin grounds. They provide for the fostering of goodwill and cooperation among groups, and define unlawful employment practices, such as barring employment on racial, color or national origin grounds, or discharging an employee on the same grounds. The same would apply to labor unions.

The bills also provide for safeguards for complainants, who would be reinstated, if discharged because of discrimination. The bills further provide for the prosecution of an employer or union who discriminates against an employee. The bills would supplement all such present laws, of which there are a number on the books.

M-G-M's Messenger East

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7.—Lillian Messenger of the M-G-M story department, and assistant to L. B. Mayer in story and play purchases, will leave here tomorrow for New York to inspect the plays in which M-G-M has a financial interest.

Rank Control Is Formalized

(*Continued from page* 1)

ministration, Ltd., for that purpose. It was the first complete get-together of Rank executives.

Rank's program, disclosed in *Motion Picture Daily* on Dec. 1, includes the expenditure of at least $20,000,000 on production next year.

Function of the new company will be to control not only all the promotional and propaganda services of Rank's widely spread production activities, but also their finance and contractual obligations.

Rank further announced that managing director and, as such dictator of all the Rank advertising, production budgeting, contracts for the hire of actors, authors, studio-help, and so forth, will be F. L. Gilbert, who has held senior office in the Establishments Division of the Treasury.

On the board of the new concern will sit Barrington Gain—who is expected to be the financial controller of all Rank's enterprises—and representatives of the three major Rank production outfits; Two Cities, Gainsborough, Independent Producers.

The plan calls for a complete revolution right down to the studio-base of operations.

St. Louis Strike Hits More Companies

(*Continued from page* 1)

only Fanchon and Marco firstruns in operation. Only four of the subsidiary St. Louis Amusement Company's 31 theatres are open.

A pressman's strike prevented the publication of afternoon newspapers, but there was no check of effect of the lack of advertising upon theatres.

Locally, it is understood that negotiations are deadlocked, but efforts are being made in New York between Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, and representatives of several of the film companies involved to settle the strike, which has now spread to all but two of the exchanges, Columbia and United Artists.

Company representatives met with Walsh in New York today and will meet again tomorrow. It is understood that Walsh has not yet received a report from Felix Snow, IATSE vice-president, of Kansas City, whom Walsh has designated to make a complete investigation of the strike.

Companies Continue AAA Federal Support

(*Continued from page* 1)

the distributor representative. However, since his resignation from Warners last Summer, the post of distributor representative is considered to be vacant.

The AAA recently renewed leases on the St. Louis, Indianapolis, New Orleans, Philadelphia and Boston tribunals, acting on automatic renewal clauses. Other leases are expected to be renewed from time to time as they expire.

About the Advertising for "CAN'T HELP SINGING"

Universal, being highly enthusiastic about the wonderful, entertaining and box-office character of Deanna Durbin's first Technicolor picture, "CAN'T HELP SINGING," has gone the limit in promoting the picture with the most strategic type of national advertising.

Not only has Universal already placed an extensive advertising campaign in all the mass-circulation magazines,* but it has also prepared extensive plans for newspaper, radio and bill-board advertising.

This advertising will reach approximately 85 million persons.

* Full-page advertisements will appear in

and many other magazines, as well as every fan magazine.

THIS IS A TYPICAL ADVERTISEMENT RUNNING IN THE BIG MAGAZINES

Deanna... in TECHNICOLOR for the First Time!

More thrilling...with the Miracle Melodies of JEROME KERN!

Romancing in the arms of two men ...winning the West all over again!

Deanna DURBIN

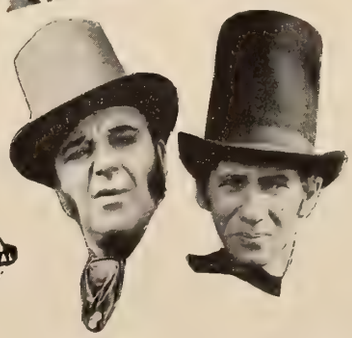
CAN'T HELP SINGING

IN TECHNICOLOR

with ROBERT PAIGE

AKIM TAMIROFF

SIX NEW *SONGS!*
"More and More", "Californ-i-ay"
"Any Moment Now" and others!



DAVID BRUCE LEONID KINSKEY RAY COLLINS JUNE VINCENT ANDREW TOMBES THOMAS GOMEZ

Directed by FRANK RYAN *Produced by* FELIX JACKSON *Assoc Producer* FRANK SHAW *Music by* JEROME KERN *Lyrics by* E. Y HARBURG

Screen Play by LEWIS R. FOSTER and FRANK RYAN · Story by John Klorer and Leo Townsend · Based on "Girl of The Overland Trail" by Samuel J. and Curtis B. Warshawsky · A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Bob Hope Wins Radio Poll for 4th Year in Row

(*Continued from page* 1)

ond choice of the radio editors as an up and coming radio star, while third place went to singer Dick Brown on the Mutual web.

Joan Davis was reelected "Best Comedienne" by a wide margin, to capture the crown for a second straight year. Fanny Brice was again second and Gracie Allen, third.

Bing Crosby was runner-up this year in the "Champion of Champions" vote, rising from third place held in the previous year and displacing Jack Benny who dropped to fifth position. Cecil B. DeMille's "Lux Radio Theatre" captured third place and Philco's "Radio Hall of Fame" program finished fourth.

Crosby scored the highest rating in this year's poll as "Best Popular Male Vocalist," on a reelection, and also was reelected "Best Master of Ceremonies." Frank Sinatra was far behind Crosby in this year's voting as "Best Popular Male Vocalist," while Dick Haymes, voted "Most Promising Star of Tomorrow" in last year's poll, was a strong third in the vocalist balloting.

Shore, Cross Poll High

Clifton Fadiman and Phil Baker narrowed down Crosby's margin in the "Best Master of Ceremonies" voting. Fadiman, of "Information Please," just nosed out Phil Baker of "Take It Or Leave It" show for second place. They displaced Don Ameche and Milton J. Cross, who held second and third positions, respectively, in last year's poll.

Cross scored a very close victory over Don Wilson in wresting leadership from the latter as the "Best Studio Announcer." Harry von Zell was close behind in third place.

Fibber McGee and Molly were reelected "Best Comedy Team." Second and third positions again went to George Burns and Gracie Allen and Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, respectively.

Dinah Shore scored a wide margin of victory in being reelected "Best Popular Female Vocalist" for the fourth time. Ginny Simms nosed out Kate Smith for second place by a narrow margin.

Lionel Barrymore was elected "Most Effective Film Player on the Air," on the basis of his weekly performances in Columbia Broadcasting's "Mayor of the Town" program. Orson Welles was second and Herbert Marshall was a close third. Barrymore was second in last year's voting, in which Don Ameche captured the title and Crosby was third.

Swarthout Also 'Reelected'

Also reelected were John Charles Thomas as "Best Classical Male Vocalist" and Gladys Swarthout as "Best Classical Female Vocalist." Both were given comfortable margins over their runners-up in their classifications. Richard Crooks won second position by a close margin over Nelson Eddy in the "Best Classical Male Vocalist" class, and Lily Pons was second and Marian Anderson, third, on the distaff side.

The Radio Champions for 1944

Alan Young

Joan Davis

Bing Crosby

Lionel Barrymore

John C. Thomas

Dinah Shore

Gladys Swarthout

Milton J. Cross

Raymond G. Swing

Tom Breneman

Bill Stern

Cecil B. DeMille

Arturo Toscanini

Guy Lombardo

George Hicks

Swing, Stern 'Best'

Raymond Gram Swing again was voted "Best News Commentator." Differentiation between commentators and newscasters was not made in this year's voting and Lowell Thomas, who won the newscasters' poll last year, scored second in the commentator class this year. H. V. Kaltenborn, second in the commentators' group last year, was third in the combined groups this year.

Bill Stern was reelected "Best Sports Announcer" for the fifth straight year. Ted Husing was second and Harry Wismer, third. This is the first time that Wismer scored among the first three in the poll.

Arturo Toscanini was again voted the "Best Symphonic Conductor" and the New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra the "Best Symphony Orchestra." The wide appeal on the air of Serge Koussevitzsky and the Boston Symphony Orchestra was clearly demonstrated in the voting this year; he was voted second in the "Best Symphonic Conductor" balloting and the Boston Symphony Orchestra was a strong second in the "Best Symphony Orchestra" voting. Artur Rodzinski, conductor of the New York Philharmonic Symphony, was voted third in the conductor class; the NBC Symphony Orchestra was third in the orchestra class.

Guy Lombardo and his orchestra, who have scored "firsts" in radio polls for almost a decade, were voted "Best Dance Band" on the air. No differentiation was made this year between 'sweet' and 'swing' bands. Harry James and his band, winners of last year's designation as "Best Swing Band" scored second in this year's poll, on a very close margin over Tommy Dorsey and his boys.

Breneman's 'Breakfast' Leads

Tom Breneman's "Breakfast at Sardi's" program, on the Blue Network, featuring novel interviews with women, was voted the "Best Daytime Program" in radio in an unusual balloting in this year's poll. Eligibles in the voting included daytime serials as well as morning programs, which had been separately polled in previous years. Suitabiilty of programs for children were also considered by the radio editors in casting their ballots. Golden Productions, Inc., has already announced that it plans to start production on a film based on the "Breakfast at Sardi's" program, about Feb. 1. "The Breakfast Club" scored second and Columbia Broadcasting's "American School of the Air" program was third.

Lux Top Drama Show

The Lux Radio theatre was reelected "Best Dramatic Program" on the air. In again scoring victory, in its 10th year in radio, this CBS program had competition this year from dramatic programs like "One Man's Family," in a combination polling. Second place in the "Best Dramatic Program" group went to "Screen Guild Players," by a narrow margin over the "Cavalcade of America" program.

Nila Mack's "Let's Pretend" show was reelected the "Best Program for Children." "The Lone Ranger" again scored second, while third place went to CBS' "American School of the

(*Continued on page* 8)

'Princess and Pirate' Gets $17,000 Over

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—Although Christmas shopping is the earliest and heaviest in years, Loop theatres are not as yet feeling any pinch at box offices. Business continues big, with "The Princess and the Pirate," $27,000, and "Since You Went Away, $34,000, leading.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 7.

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (80c-$1.10) 7th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average, 55c-95c scale: $11,400).

"Brazil" (Rep.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c). On stage: Cab Calloway and orchestra. Gross: $54,000. (Average: $51,500).

"When Strangers Marry" (Mono.)
DOWNTOWN—(1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c). On stage: Earl Hines and orchestra. Gross: $19,000.

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c), 3rd Loop week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $9,-100).

"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO) 6 days, 3rd Loop week
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO) 1 day, 2nd Loop week
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,100).

"Meet Miss Bobby Socks" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c). On stage: Gene Krupa and orchestra. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $24,000).

"The Climax" (Univ.)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO) 6 days
"The Woman in the Window" (RKO-International)
"My Gal Loves Music" (Univ.) 1 day
PALACE—(2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7th week. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $29,000).

"Kismet" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c). 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,-000).

"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $10,000).

Academy to Screen Films for Voters

(*Continued from page* 1)

president Walter Wanger disclosed here today.

Objective of the innovation is to afford the voters an opportunity to see the nominated product they may have missed during the regular theatre runs, eliminating the contention often made that pictures released early in the calendar year are unduly penalized by the lapsed time before the voting.

The Academy awards ceremony again is slated for the Chinese Theatre, March 8 or 15, continuing the precedent established last year. Charles Skouras of Fox-West Coast Theatres is donating the Marquis for the screenings and the Chinese for the final ceremony. Mechanism for notifying the voters regarding the days on which the different nominated product will be screened has not yet been set up, but it is believed that direct mailing of the fortnight schedule, on which each film will be shown twice, will be used. Admittance to the theatre will be limited to qualified voters. As formerly, only pictures exhibited in Los Angeles during the calendar year will be eligible for the award.

79 Rate High in Annual Poll of Radio Editors

Results in all classifications in MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S *annual poll on top radio talent and programs follow, together with names of sponsors, agencies, networks and program (EWT) time in the case of first place winners and networks in the case of other winners:*

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

Bob Hope (Pepsodent—Foote, Cone and Belding—NBC, Tuesdays, 10-10:30 p.m.)
Bing Crosby (NBC)
Lux Radio Theatre (CBS)
Radio Hall of Fame (Blue)
Jack Benny (NBC)

MOST PROMISING STARS OF TOMORROW

Alan Young (Bristol-Myers Co.—Young & Rubicam—Blue, Tuesdays, 8:30-9 p.m.
Jack Carson (CBS)
Dick Brown (Mutual)

COMEDIANS

Bob Hope (Pepsodent—Foote, Cone and Belding—NBC, Tuesdays, 10-10:30 p.m.)
Jack Benny (NBC)
Fred Allen (Last regular program on CBS—now making guest appearances)

COMEDIENNES

Joan Davis (Sealtest—McKee and Albright—NBC, Thursdays, 9:30-10 p.m.)
Fanny Brice (CBS)
Gracie Allen (CBS)

COMEDY TEAMS

Fibber McGee and Molly (S. C. Johnson, Louis and Brorby—NBC, Tuesdays, 9:30-10 p.m.)
George Burns and Gracie Allen (CBS)
Bud Abbott and Lou Costello (NBC)

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES

Bing Crosby (Kraft Cheese—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Thursdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)
Clifton Fadiman (NBC)
Phil Baker (CBS)

FILM PLAYERS ON THE AIR

Lionel Barrymore (Noxema Chemical Co.—Ruthrauff and Ryan—CBS, Saturdays, 7-7:30 p.m.)
Orson Welles (Guest Appearances)
Herbert Marshall (Blue)

MALE VOCALISTS (Popular)

Bing Crosby (Kraft Cheese—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Thursdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)
Frank Sinatra (CBS)
Dick Haymes (NBC)

FEMALE VOCALISTS (Popular)

Dinah Shore (General Foods—Young and Rubicam—NBC, Thursdays, 8:30-9 p.m.)
Ginny Simms (NBC)
Kate Smith (CBS)

FEMALE VOCALISTS (Classical)

Gladys Swarthout (Last regular program on CBS—Now making guest appearances)
Lily Pons (Guest Appearances)
Marian Anderson (Guest Appearances)

MALE VOCALISTS (Classical)

John Charles Thomas (Westinghouse—McCann-Erickson—NBC, Sundays, 2:30-3 p.m.)
Richard Crooks (NBC)
Nelson Eddy (CBS)

STUDIO ANNOUNCERS

Milton J. Cross (Texas Co.—Buchanan and Co.—Blue, Saturdays, 2-5 p.m.)
Don Wilson (NBC)
Harry von Zell (NBC)

COMMENTATORS

Raymond Gram Swing (Socony Oil—Compton Advertising Co.—Blue, Mondays through Thursdays, 10-10:15 p.m.)
Lowell Thomas (NBC)
H. V. Kaltenborn (NBC)

SPORTS ANNOUNCERS

Bill Stern (Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Co.—Sherman and Marquette—NBC, Fridays, 10:30-10:45 p.m.)
Ted Husing (CBS)
Harry Wismer (Blue)

SYMPHONIC CONDUCTORS

Arturo Toscanini (General Motors—Arthur Kudner—NBC, Sundays, 5-6 p.m.)
Serge Koussevitzky (Blue)
Artur Rodzinski (CBS)

SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRAS

New York Philharmonic Symphony (United States Rubber—Campbell-Ewald, CBS, Sundays, 3-4:30 p.m.)
Boston Symphony (Blue)
NBC Symphony (NBC)

DANCE BANDS

Guy Lombardo (Larus & Brother—Warwick & Legler—Blue, Saturdays, 10-10:30 p.m.)
Harry James (CBS)
Tommy Dorsey (NBC)

DAYTIME PROGRAMS

Breakfast at Sardi's (Procter and Gamble—Compton Advertising Co.—Blue, Mondays through Fridays, 11-11:15 a.m.; also Kellogg Co.—Kenyon and Eckhardt—Blue, Mondays through Fridays, 11:15-11:30 a.m.)
Breakfast Club (Blue)
American School of the Air (CBS)

DRAMATIC PROGRAMS

Lux Radio Theatre (Lever Bros.—J. Walter Thompson—CBS, Mondays, 9-10 p.m.)
Screen Guild Players (CBS)
Cavalcade of America (NBC)

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Let's Pretend (Cream of Wheat—Batton, Barton, Durstine and Osborn—CBS, Saturdays, 11:05-11:30 a.m.)
Lone Ranger (Blue)
American School of the Air (CBS)

MUSICAL SHOWS

Pause That Refreshes on the Air (Coca Cola—D'Arcy Advertising Co.—CBS, Sundays, 4:30-5 p.m.)
Fred Waring Program (Blue)
Telephone Hour (NBC)

Davis, Young, Bing Crosby All Rate High

(*Continued from Page* 7)

Air," which missed capturing second place by a very narrow margin, indicating a growing preference on the part of radio editors for educational features for children.

Jack Benny scored second place in the "Best Comedian" voting, behind Bob Hope, and his air show was voted second to Hope's Pepsodent show in the "Best Comedy Show" designation. Despite his frequent absences from the air, Fred Allen was a close third in the "Best Comedian" voting. Ed Gardner's "Duffy's Tavern" finished third in the "Best Comedy Show" group.

"Best Musical Show" on the air is still Andre Kostelanetz's "The Pause That Refreshes on the Air." Fred Waring's program on the Blue was a close runner-up and the Telephone Hour finished strongly in third place.

"Information Please" was reelected "Best Quiz Show," Phil Baker's "Take It or Leave It" was a strong second place winner in this classification, with third place going to "Dr. I. Q."

"The Army Hour" continues as an outstanding favorite in again winning the designation of "Best War Program." No differentiation was made this year between commercial and Government war programs. In this class, second place was won by "Words at War." "Meet Your Navy" was third.

The nation's radio editors and critics heaped great praise on George Hicks of the Blue Network for his handling of reports from the invasion beachhead in Normandy on D-Day, reports which were carried by all networks. Their vote is that his was the best individual news job performed in radio in 1944. They also voted the Columbia Broadcasting's 1944 news job as the best performed in radio by a network. Honors for the "Best News Job in 1944," therefore, go to Paul White's CBS news department for the best network job and to Hicks for the best job by an individual.

All winners in all classes are listed in adjoining columns.

COMEDY SHOWS

Bob Hope (Pepsodent Co.—Foote, Cone and Belding—NBC, Tuesdays, 10-10:30 p.m.
Jack Benny (NBC)
Ed Gardner (NBC)

QUIZ SHOWS

Information Please (H. J. Heinz—Maxon, Inc.—NBC, Mondays, 9:30-10 p.m.)
Take It or Leave It (CBS)
Dr. I. Q. (NBC)

WAR PROGRAMS

Army Hour (NBC)
Words at War (NBC)
Meet Your Navy (Blue)

BEST NEWS JOB BY RADIO IN 1944

Network—Columbia Broadcasting
Individual—George Hicks, Blue Network, for 'D-Day' coverage from the invasion beachhead.

Court Stops Afra De Mille Ouster

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 7.—Superior Judge Emmet Wilson ordered officials of the American Federation of Radio Artists, American Federation of Labor, today not to interfere with Cecil B. DeMille's radio program nor to oust him as a member in good standing.

The order was a temporary restraint laid on the union leaders until such time as the court can go into the matter. Dec. 15, was set as the time for the union's officials to appear and show cause why the temporary order should not be made into a preliminary injunction.

De Mille refused to pay a $1 union assessment with which to oppose a proposal before the California voters in the last election.

PRC Giving Bonus For Christmas

PRC will this year distribute a holiday cash bonus to employes in the New York office, depending upon length of service. The policy on employes in company-owned exchanges will be determined by local managers.

Other companies reported so far to be giving Christmas bonuses are: Loew's, 20th-Fox and Columbia.

Army Picks 'Pirate'

RKO's "The Princess and the Pirate," starring Bob Hope, has been selected by the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service as the Christmas picture for the battlefronts.

Review

"The Adventures of Kitty O'Day"

(*Monogram*)

JEAN PARKER romps through her second detective venture in Monogram's "Kitty O'Day" series, as the sprightly and slightly eccentric Kitty, amateur sleuth. Her boy-friend, Peter Cookson, bears with her "inspirations" with the maximum amount of griping and a minimum of effective action.

The story, motivated by much noise and confusion, suffers from an acute lack of cohesion and continuity, but nevertheless, draws a few good laughs. A disappearing "corpse," which the police believe to be purely a figment of Miss Parker's imagination, sparks the initial action. It is only after several actual murders that the police decide to investigate Miss Parker and Cookson. In the end, however, Miss Parker stumbles upon the real murderer, thus clearing herself and Cookson and incurring the indignance of Tim Ryan, the cop assigned to the case.

The screenplay, by Tim Ryan, George Callahan and Victor Hammond, was designed for laughs, and director William Beaudine handled it, as such, quite well. Lindsley Parsons produced. Miss Parker and Cookson struggle valiant with their loosely drawn roles. Supporting cast includes Ralph Sanford, Bill Ruhl, Bill Forrest and Lorna Gray.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* Release date, Jan. 19.

HELEN MCNAMARA

"G" denotes general classification.

Ida Schreiber to SCTOA

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 7.—Ida Schreiber, who recently resigned as office manager of the Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California and Arizona, a post which she held for 10 years, has joined the Southern California Theatre Owners Association as assistant to Albert J. Law, executive director and general counsel.

Richards Buys Monogram

The Publix-Richards-Nace circuit in Arizona has bought Monogram's complete 1944-45 product lineup.

Clearace Case Dropped

Frank G. Weller, arbitrator in the Los Angeles tribunal, has dismissed the clearance complaint of George Bromley and Alex Mounce, operator of the Campus, Los Angeles, against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Shortage Hits Censors

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 7.—The Ohio censor board has discontinued the issuance of its weekly bulletins due to the paper shortage.

'Abroad' with Band $15,500 for Week

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 7.—No history-making scores at local theatres this week. The Midland, with "Abroad with Two Yanks" on the screen and Sammy Kaye with his orchestra on the stage, with advanced prices, was tops, scoring $15,500 for the week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 5-8:

"Brazil" (Rep.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,400).

"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (55c-75c) 7 days. Sammy Kaye and orchstra on stage. Gross: $15,500. (Average at regular prices: $14,000).

"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

"None but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Enemy of Women" (Mono.)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Stage review. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $9,400).

"Brazil" (Rep.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,600).

Howard Herrick Dies

Howard J. Herrick, 75, screen and stage publicist, died at the Willard Hotel, Washington, yesterday while completing a tour with Eva Le Gallienne. Services will be held Saturday at 1 P. M. at the Little Church Around the Corner here. Herrick represented films in the early days of the industry and during World War I was publicity manager for the division of films of the Committee of Public Information.

Blonde, vivacious Vera Hruba Ralston enjoys the antics of Robert Livingston, who's a fizz on skates but a wow at romance in Republic's gay musical ice spectacle, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE." (ADVT.)

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Nov. 11	THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon D—66 mins. (6040)	(Ninth Block) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—112 mins. (501)	GHOST GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O (453)	(Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins.	BLUEBEARD John Carradine Jean Parker Nils Asther D—70 mins. THE GREAT MIKE Robert Henry Stuart Erwin D—73 mins.	VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY Wild Bill Elliott Peggy Stewart O—55 mins. (3315)	(Special Release) THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW (International) E. G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey D—99 mins. (582)		DARK WATERS Merle Oberon Franchot Tone D—90 mins.	DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Jean Parker Paul Kelly D—64 mins. (9026)	THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Faye Emerson D—99 mins. (406)
Nov. 18		BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502) MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—90 mins. (504)	WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger D—67 mins. (413)	(Second Block) FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Color) Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova D—113 mins. (4408)			(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN (International Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins. (530)		RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford Delta Rhythm Boys D—63 mins. (9029)	
Nov. 25		WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—108 mins. (503)	SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore O (461)	MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds D—84 mins. (4410)		FACES IN THE FOG Jane Withers D—71 mins. (404) FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA Smiley Burnette O—55 mins. (453)	(First Block) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505) NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501)		3 IS A FAMILY Charlie Ruggles Helen Broderick C—80 mins.	ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Charles Korvin Ella Raines D—72 mins. (9018)	
Dec. 2	SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks D (6032)	MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—117 mins. (505)	CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom C (421)	THE MAN IN HALF-MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker D—92 mins. (4407)	ROGUES GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond C OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe Al St. John O	BRAZIL Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce M—91 mins. (405)	GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins. (504) TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines O—87 mins. (503)			MURDER IN The BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook John Litel D—61 mins. (9034)	THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Jane Wyman Jack Carson C—102 mins. (407)
Dec. 9	TAHITI NIGHTS Dave O'Brien Carole Mathews C	KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—100 mins. (506) (Color)	SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson D—68 mins. (416)	AND NOW TOMORROW Loretta Young Alan Ladd D—85 mins. (4406)	THE TOWN WENT WILD Freddie Bartholomew Jimmy Lydon D—80 mins.	RED RIVER VALLEY (Reissue) Gene Autry O (3308)	THE MASTER RACE Carl Esmond Osa Massen Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey D—96 mins. (502)	(Fourth Block) (Nov. Release) LAURA Gene Tierney D—88 mins. (509)	GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy D	THE OLD TEXAS TRAIL Rod Cameron Fuzzy Knight HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Jr. C—64 mins. (9031)	
Dec. 16	TOGETHER AGAIN Irene Dunne Charles Boyer Charles Coburn C—100 mins. (6003)	MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (507) NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Reissue) Jeannette Mac Donald Nelson Eddy M—106 mins. (508)	ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—76 mins. (403)	ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker C—76 mins. (4409)	CASTLE OF CRIMES Keneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall D		(Second Block) EXPERIMENT PERILOUS Hedy Lamarr George Brent D—91 mins. (510)	SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Michael O'Shea M—87 mins. (510)		MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Grace McDonald Bob Crosby M—63 mins.	
Dec. 23	DANCING IN MANHATTAN Fred Brady Jeff Donnell C (6038)	AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards D—122 mins. (510) (Color)	BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids D—62 mins. (409)	(Third Block) HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts M	THE WHISPERING SKULL (Texas Rangers) O		FAREWELL MY LOVELY Anne Shirley Dick Powell D—95 mins. (508)			DESTINY Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald D—65 mins.	
Dec. 30	LET'S GO STEADY Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser C	LOST IN A HAREM Abbott and Costello C—89 mins. (509)	NAVAJO TRAILS Johnny Mack Brown O	DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks D	HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay D	SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake 55 mins.—O (3316)	GIRL RUSH Frances Langford Wally Brown C—65 mins (506) NEVADA Bob Mitchum Anne Jeffreys O—62 mins. (509)	(Fifth Block) (Dec. Release) WINGED VICTORY Edmond O'Brien Jeanne Crain D—130 min. (512)	TOMORROW THE WORLD Frederic March Betty Field D	CAN'T HELP SINGING Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff (Color) M	
Jan. 6	YOUTH ON TRIAL Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair D		ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Rick Vallin D—67 mins. (414)	FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Ingrid Bergman Gary Cooper D—168 mins. (Color)			THE FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD Tom Conway Veda Ann Borg D—67 mins. (507)	SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER Anne Baxter John Hodiak D—86 mins. (513)	I'LL BE SEEING YOU Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten D	NIGHT CLUB GIRL Vivian Austin Edward Norris M	THE HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN All-Star Cast M (409)
Jan. 13	EADIE WAS A LADY Joe Besser Hal MacIntyre and Orchestra C		ADVENTURES Of KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker D—63 mins. (420)	PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray C DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D	THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge D		THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE (Special) Bob Hope Virginia Mayo (Color) C—94 mins. (551)		MR. EMMANUEL (British) Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt D—100 mins.	SHE GETS HER MAN Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol C	
Jan. 20	I LOVE A MYSTERY Jim Bannon Barton Yarborough Nina Foch D		JADE MASK Sidney Toler D—66 mins.				(Special Release) BELLE OF THE YUKON Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Bob Burns (Color) C—84 mins. (583)			UNDER WESTERN SKIES Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Sr. Leo Carillo O	TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—100 mins.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 111 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1944 | TEN CENTS

'U' Sales Up 300 Per Cent In 7 Years

Jump from $200,000 to $650,000 Weekly

Universal's domestic business has more than tripled in the seven years since Nate J. Blumberg was elected president and appointed William A. Scully to the post of general sales manager, according to figures compiled by the company on the eve of the 10th annual "Bill Scully Anniversary Drive," which began yesterday.

Nate J. Blumberg

From an average sales volume of about $200,000 weekly in 1937-38, income

(*Continued on page* 11)

Strike's Toll: 63 Theatres

St. Louis, Dec. 10.—Two more major St. Louis theatres closed at the weekend, bringing to 63 the number of houses darkened by the week-old strike of film exchange workers. There are 111 film theatres in St. Louis and St. Louis County.

Latest houses to be affected by the strike, which has made 231 employes idle, were Loew's State and Loew's Orpheum, where projectionists, acting in sympathy with AFL Film Exchange Employes Locals B-1 and F-1,

(*Continued on page* 18)

Radio Poll Winners In Air Ceremonies

Presentation of scrolls to winners in the Motion Picture Daily-*Fame* ninth annual radio poll started at the weekend in public ceremonies broadcast from programs of winners. Winners in the poll were announced in Motion Picture Daily last Friday. Bill Stern, designated as "Best

(*Continued on page* 12)

Television's Coordinators In First Meet

First annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association, the first to coordinate television interests of the nation, will get underway at the Hotel Commodore here this morning. It will run through tomorrow afternoon.

Over 500 registrations had been recorded for the conference by the weekend and more are expected before J. R. Pop-

(*Continued on page* 18)

Sydney Towell, 48, Killed in Accident

Sydney Towell, 48, vice-president and treasurer of 20th Century-Fox, died at Jewish Memorial Hospital here Saturday morning of a fractured skull sustained in an automobile accident at Riverside Drive and 186th Street in the gale of Friday night. Towell's car, driving north, is understood to have been in collision with another northbound car.

Towell is survived by his widow, Mrs. Gladys Towell, and three children: Gilmer, 16; Cynthia, 14, and David, 7, all of Bronxville.

More Cities Report Box-Office Drop

Additional reports from the field received here yesterday indicate further effects of early and extended Christmas shopping on box office reports, adding to the several cities listing a drop as reported last Thursday in *Motion Picture Daily*, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Toronto, Los Angeles, Hollywood, Providence, Buffalo and Kansas City, being typical of conditions elsewhere. Reporting yesterday were: Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Omaha and Cleveland.

Re-issues Flood England: Daff

Numerous exchanges have sprung up recently in England devoted exclusively to re-issues, Al E. Daff, vice-president of Universal's International Corp., discloses. He recently returned to New York after three months in England.

This development has been engendered by the prosperity currently enjoyed by average Englishmen which gives them spending power to patronize pictures released before the war which they were financially unable to see previously, Daff said. Re-issues are doing big business, he said.

Zanuck Asks End of German Film Industry

Cites Film Use in Peace At Nobel Award Dinner

Total abolition of the German film industry as a menace to world peace was proposed by Darryl F. Zanuck, in addressing the American Nobel Anniversary Dinner at the Astor Hotel last night.

Darryl F. Zanuck

Outlining a broad program for using motion pictures to foster and maintain a permanent peace, Zanuck declared: "These suggestions are of no value unless the victorious United Nations deal realistically with the Nazi

(*Continued on page* 12)

40 WAC Chairmen Get Honor Plaques

Ned E. Depinet, retiring chairman of the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee, announced at the weekend that each distributor and district WAC chairman not previously honored will receive a citation and plaque commendatory of his WAC war activities. Plaques

(*Continued on page* 11)

French News Agency To Make Newsreels

Havas, formerly French official news agency, has reorganized under the name of 'Agence France Presse' and has set up camera units to shoot newsreel footage, which will be incorporated in the French government's

(*Continued on page* 12)

Radio Editors Call for More New Program Ideas

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

Radio needs to develop new types of programs, new personalities; radio commercial announcements can stand considerable improvement; more emphasis should be placed on public service programs; programs should be directed in their appeal to a higher intellectual level. These are some of the criticisms of and suggestions for broadcasters made by newspaper radio editors, columnists and critics voting in the ninth annual Motion Picture Daily-*Fame* radio poll, results of which appeared in Friday's issue.

The radio scribes had laudatory comments for the state of the radio industry and expressed them in conjunction with the poll.

"The prime need of radio today is for new ideas, but under the existing

(*Continued on page* 16)

Ask an Extension of Theatres' 6th Drive

Extension of exhibitors' Sixth War Bond special premieres and promotions to Dec. 31, beyond the Dec. 16 scheduled date for the drive's end, was requested at the weekend in telegrams dispatched to state exhibitor chairmen, by the industry's national committee, which expects millions of additional dollars worth of 'E' bond sales to accrue from an extension.

Harry Brandt, national drive chairman, pointed out that all bond sales in December will be credited to the industry for the Sixth.

Reviewed Today

Review of "Nevada" appears on page 13.

Personal Mention

SIR ALEXANDER KORDA and BEN GOETZ, MGM British production heads, have arrived in New York, from England.

•

LT. COL. LYNN FARNOL, well known film publicist before entering the Army, is in New York from England on leave.

•

GRACE MCDONALD, dancer and film player, married LT. RALPH GREEN in Santa Barbara, Cal., last week. MRS. GREEN is the daughter of the late WILLIAM MCDONALD, who was with the film section of the Office of War Information in Hollywood.

•

CPL. NORMAN ROLFE, former Connecticut manager for the Lockwood and Gordon circuit, left Hartford over the weekend following a 15-day furlough, to return to Orlando, Fla., where he is manager of the Army post theatre, Signal Hill.

•

RUTH MASTERS, daughter of HASKELL M. MASTERS, general manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada, Ltd., will marry LLOYD DAVIDSON of the R.C.A.F., Dec. 21 in the Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto.

•

J. R. MACEACHON, manager of the Paramount and State in Jackson, Tenn., has been appointed a colonel and aide-de-camp to GOVERNOR THOMAS L. BAILEY of Mississippi for war bond work.

•

CLAUDE LEE, Paramount's director of public relations, has returned to New York from Toronto where he conferred with J. J. FITZGIBBONS, president of Famous Players Canadian.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic president, is due in Hollywood today from New York for conferences with H. J. YATES, SR., chairman of the board.

•

MORT BLUMENSTOCK, in charge of Warners advertising and publicity in the East, returned to New York over the weekend from Macon, Ga.

•

LEN BISHOP, manager of the Famous Players' Tivoli, Toronto, and MRS. BISHOP, recently became the parents of a baby daughter.

•

J. E. FONTAINE, Paramount's Washington branch manager, is in New York on business.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal's Western division sales manager, is ill at his home here.

Sealuxe Now Available

"Further indication that restrictions on theatre equipment are starting to relax" is evidenced in a report from A. J. Lindsley of National Theatre Supply disclosing that Sealuxe theatre display systems are again available for theatre fronts or interiors.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

UNIVERSAL Pictures Co. board of directors recently approved, for the sixth time since Pearl Harbor, the payment to all former employes of the company of 25 per cent of each individual's annual salary as of the time he or she entered service, for an ensuing six month's period. That action has been taken twice yearly since April, 1942, without interruption. More significantly, the action has been taken without any bid being made for publicity, due to a conviction shared by the board with J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman, and Nate J. Blumberg, president, that, in effect, in continuing employes in the service on the company's payroll at 25 per cent of their normal salaries, the company is doing no more than it might reasonably be expected to do.

That may be a sound viewpoint, but if other companies are matching Universal's action, this department has yet to hear of it. For all we know, it may be commonplace, for other companies may be avoiding the limelight, just as Universal is, in pursuing a generous policy however much they may regard such policy as either a duty or as routine business practice, undeserving of acclaim. The facts in the Universal case were not easy to come by. The trail started with a casual reference to the company's policy contained in a letter to this department from a former Universal employe now in service.

•

On being questioned, company officials carefully noted their reluctance to have the practice publicized on the grounds that Universal might be placed in the light of seeking acclaim for doing something it regards as both a duty and a privilege and emphasized that it "is no longer news; it has been done ever since Pearl Harbor."

They declined to disclose the total of such payments made to date, or the amount of any single semi-annual payment to the company's approximately 500 former employes now in service. It was learned, however, that the company has received hundreds of letters from the recipients in service in all parts of the world, expressing their appreciation and, in many instances, relating the uses to which the money has been or is being put. In many cases, the company was told the checks are all that is keeping families of service men intact in the absence of the former employes.

•

Also, the Universal board, at a meeting late last week, again approved the customary Christmas bonus payment of one week's salary to all employes earning up to $40 per week.

Universal's fiscal year ended Nov. 1, last, and while the company's annual financial statement is not expected to be completed prior to the end of January, it is learned that 1944 net after taxes and all charges will be slightly less than the $3,760,000 reported for the 1943 fiscal year.

• •

Exercising the right of every American to differ with his fellow countrymen, and also in keeping with the traditional differences of viewpoint among members of this industry, we suppose explains why, currently, three applications for membership in the M. P. Producers & Distributors of America were filed at approximately the same time that Warners' notification of intention to resign from membership in the Association was being delivered.

The new applicants are: Hal Wallis Prod., headed by former Warnerites Joseph Hazen and Hal Wallis; Cagney Prod., headed by former Warnerite James Cagney, and International Pictures, headed by Leo Spitz and William Goetz.

• •

The War Department's, if not the Government's views of a proper public behavior and attitude on the occasion of V-E Day is best exemplified in a series of trailers which were made recently under the supervision of Major Kenneth McKenna at the Army Signal Corps plant at Astoria, Queens. Designed to be used as newsreel clips in all theatres on V-E Day. The subjects, among other things, warn Americans against unreserved rejoicing over Germany's surrender and remind the public of the vast amount of working and dying which will remain to be done before the war is ended.

Obviously, the Army is expecting theatres to remain open on V-E Day. It needs open theatres in which to put its messages before America on that day.

Folliard to Head '45 Ned Depinet Drive

Robert J. Folliard, RKO Radio Eastern district manager, has been named head of the 1945 Ned Depinet Drive, Jan. 19 to May 10, it was announced over the weekend by Robert Mochrie, general sales manager.

Harry Gittleson will serve as lieutenant to Folliard, a post he has filled in previous Depinet drives.

This year's drive, according to Mochrie, will be, as heretofore, a contest for billings. Prizes will be awarded the winners in a large number of categories. Folliard and Gittleson will start a tour of company branches on Jan. 1, with the exchange meeting in Boston on Jan. 2.

Folliard will observe his 25th year with RKO and predecessor companies coincidently with the drive.

Launch Comerford Today in Georgia

BRUNSWICK, Ga., Dec. 10.—The *S.S. M.E. Comerford* will be launched here tomorrow at the Jones Shipbuilding Co. yards.

Named in honor of the late head of the Comerford theatre circuit in Pennsylvania, the ship will be christened by his widow, who resides in Scranton, Pa. Mrs. Thomas Friday, Comerford's daughter, will be co-sponsor. Among those expected to attend are Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, Judge Thomas J. Walker and Dr. Joseph Comerford, nephews of the late theatre operator. Comerford's former employees will present the ship's library.

Para. Will Redeem Subsidiaries' Bonds

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, reports that two of its consolidated subsidiaries will redeem, on or about Dec. 22, the balance, amounting to $1,214,000 principal amount, of their first mortgage bonds covering, respectively, the Granada and Marbro theatres in Chicago.

Cash required is being provided out of working funds of Paramount Pictures, Inc. and the subsidiaries involved. The bonds were originally issued in 1935 in the amount of $2,024,200.

Honor Trade Press For Drive Efforts

Individual members of the film trade press will be cited, on Thursday, by the industry's Sixth War Loan committee, at a luncheon at the Monte Carlo, for their efforts and cooperation with the committee in the drive.

Harry Brandt, national drive chairman, will make the citations, with Jay Emanuel, campaign coordinator, participating.

Renew Legion Pledge

The annual renewal of the National Legion of Decency pledge took place yesterday in Roman Catholic churches throughout the country.

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"Here we come out of the wild blue yonder"

The U.S. Army Air Forces'

Own Thrill-Roaring Show!

The U.S. Army Air Forces'

Own Thrill-Roaring Show!

Filmed
from Broadway's
Triumphant
Stage Hit!

MOSS HART'S

WINGED VICTORY

NEVER SUCH ROUSING, LUSTY BOX-OFFICE ENTERTAINMENT! TUNEFUL... FUN-FILLED... BREATH-TAKING!

IT'S THE BIGGEST GLORY-SPLASHED, AUDIENCE-AIMED PICTURE OF THE YEAR!

PRESENTED BY

20th CENTURY-FOX

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

PRODUCED BY DARRYL F. ZANUCK ★ DIRECTED BY GEORGE CUKOR

Filmed from Broadway's
Triumphant Stage Hit!

20th CENTURY-FOX

THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN PRE-SELLING DOES ANOTHER NATION-SPANNING JOB IN

American Weekly . . . This Week . . . Metropolitan Group . . . Puck, The Comic Weekly . . . Life . . . Ladies' Home Journal . . . Good Housekeeping . . . Look . . . Cosmopolitan . . . American Magazine . . . Time . . . Redbook . . . Parents' Magazine . . . Newsweek . . . Liberty . . . Pic . . . Scholastic

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20th Century-Fox
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
THE U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES
PRESENTS

MOSS HART'S Winged Victory

WITH

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SGT. MARK DANIELS · JO-CARROLL DENNISON · CPL. DON TAYLOR · JUDY HOLLIDAY · CPL. LEE J. COBB · T/SGT. PETER LIND HAYES · CPL. ALAN BAXTER

Produced by **DARRYL F. ZANUCK** · Directed by **GEORGE CUKOR**

STAGE PLAY AND SCREEN PLAY BY MOSS HART

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Dudley Lapsed, But Judge Carter Didn't

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 10.—A circuit court jury went to a film theatre here the other day, but not to see the show.

Juryman Frank Dudley discovered after he and 11 others had been empaneled for a trial that he had in his pocket the only key to the cash box at the theatre of which he is manager. Judge Eugene Carter said the group could not be separated, and ordered 12 jurors march down a hill to the theatre several blocks away. Dudley turned in the key, and they all marched up again to the court house.

Hanson Forms 6th Canadian Company

TORONTO, Dec. 10.—Oscar R. Hanson, film veteran, has launched a producing project for 16mm. films to be part of his rapidly-expanding group of companies. The unit is to be known as Instructional Motion Pictures of Canada, LTD., and operations will start as soon as a new-company permit has been secured from the Government.

Hanson discloses that $20,000 is now available for the enterprise, that all equipment already has been bought and a studio will be established in Toronto where the headoffice is located. Meanwhile, 16mm. product, starting with a group of 18, for which a contract has been signed for the Canadian market, is being imported from the United States. Initial product has been secured through George Weeks of Los Angeles, who was at one time general manager of Famous Lasky Film Service in Toronto and with whom Hanson has long had trade relations.

Historical Subjects

Hanson will both produce and distribute 16mm. pictures for commercial, educational, religious and other fields. Hanson stated he already has contracts for such 16mm. features as "The History of England" and "The History of Ontario" while arrangements have been made for the release of illustrated hymns and other parts of church services to religious groups.

Hanson said that he would not invade 35mm. theatre zones with his films. Instructional Motion Pictures is distinct from Hanson 16mm. Movies LTD., which will continue to distribute theatrical programs to military camps and rural circuits.

Numerous Companies

Hanson's companies, which have branches across the Dominion, include: Monogram Pictures of Canada, Esquire Films (for the distribution of British and Soviet features), Sterling Films, Hanson 16mm. Movies, Microfilm-Microstat of Canada, LTD., various subsidiaries, and now Instructional Motion Pictures. H. T. Long of the Hanson headoffice staff has been in New York during the past week on a buying expedition for 16mm. subjects for release in Canada.

Universal Sales Up 300% In Past Seven Years

(*Continued from page* 1)

has grown to almost $650,000 weekly, an increase of more than 300 per cent, and the total of 7,951 domestic accounts on the books at the start of the period had risen to 11,407 by August of this year.

The increase on a yearly basis is at the rate of $10,400,000 to $33,800,000 in the seven years.

Meanwhile, in an effort to maintain this upward trend, Universal's sales force will now inaugurate a campaign of even closer cooperation with exhibitors to develop an extra interest in the promotion of new screen personalities recently added by the studio, Scully emphasized at a three-day mid-Winter sales meeting which ended here yesterday.

Computation of the current weekly gross business shows that the 1937-38 average of approximately $200,000 had increased more than 75 per cent by the end of the 1940-41 fiscal year, which would place it beyond $350,000 at that time, and had then taken a further 85 per cent jump—to beyond $647,500—by last August. At the conclusion of the first three years under Blumberg and Scully, Universal's total domestic accounts stood at 10,437.

Speaking at the sales meeting of the company's plan to promote new stars, Scully said: "In the next five years, this will be one of the industry's crucial problems. Mentioning Charles Korvin, Yvonne DeCarlo, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey and Rod Cameron as players Universal will emphasize, he added that the company is investing heavily to put them in high-budget pictures.

Friday's session opened with a greeting from Blumberg, and on Saturday E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager, outlined plans for the Scully sales drive. Addressing the meeting yesterday were: Fred Meyers, Eastern division manager; F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern division manager, and Maurice Bergman, Eastern publicity manager. Prizes were awarded to district managers Peter Rosian, Joseph Garrison and Harry Graham, winners of the recently concluded "Blumberg Testimonial Drive."

Others attending were: A. J. O'Keefe and district managers David A. Levy, John J. Scully, M. M. Gottlieb, Dave Miller, C. J. Feldman and Salem Applegate, as well as short subjects sales manager E. L. McEvoy, and F. T. Murray and J. J. Jordan of the home office.

Garson Makes 'Dimes' Trailer for 3rd Year

Greer Garson will make her third appearance on the screen on behalf of the coming March of Dimes drive, it was announced here at the weekend by chairman Nicholas M. Schenck. MGM is making the trailer, which it is hoped, will help influence a gross of $5,000,000 for the paralysis fund.

Frank Whitbeck will again produce the trailer, "The Miracle of Hickory," which will reveal how dimes collected in 1944 fought the disease in Hickory, N. C. It will be distributed by National Screen to all theatres signing the pledge to participate in the campaign. In 1944, 12,000 theatres had collections of $4,667,000, and in 1943, the total was $2,116,000.

RKO Asks Extension Of Christmas Bonus

RKO has made application to the War Labor Board and the Treasury for permission to pay a Christmas bonus of one week's salary to those in the theatre department making up to $45, and to grant a similar bonus of $40 to the home office and other employes in the picture department making up to $80 weekly.

Other companies reported so far to be giving Christmas bonuses are: Loew's, 20th-Fox, Columbia and PRC.

Law Coming East

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 10.—Albert J. Law, executive director and general counsel of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, is en route East to attend the March of Dimes conference in Washington on Dec. 19, and while there he will visit officials of the Department of Justice of which he was a member for several years. From Washington he will go to New York before returning to Los Angeles.

Dec. 18 Trial Date In Franchise Suit

Trial of the suit of Leader Theatre Corp., operating of the Leader Theatre, Brooklyn, against 20th Century-Fox and the Randforce circuit, has again been postponed, from today to Dec. 18, in New York Supreme Court. Action seeks to determine whether a franchise for film can be shifted from theatre to theatre.

Application to examine Samuel Rinzler, circuit operator, and Ray Moon of 20th-Fox, before trial, is under advisement by Justice Lloyd Church. Emil K. Ellis is attorney for the plaintiff.

O'Connor to Speak at Conference on Dec. 15

Basil O'Connor, national chairman of the Red Cross, will be the principal speaker at the luncheon on Dec. 15 of the National Conference of Christians and Jews at the Hotel Astor, here. A eulogy for the late Wendell Willkie will be offered during the meeting. Major General Frederick E. Uhl of the Fourth Service Command will also speak.

Press Photographers Reception Feb. 2

The Press Photographers Association of New York, many members of which are in the film industry here, will hold its 16th annual dance and entertainment on Feb. 2 at the Waldorf-Astoria. Screen, radio and stage stars will appear.

Eckhardt to Testify

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—Clyde Eckhardt, 20th Century-Fox exchange manager in Los Angeles, will arrive here on Jan. 3 to be a witness in the Thomas Murray anti-trust suit which opens in Federal Court on that date.

Short Subject Review

"Beachhead to Berlin"

(*Warners*)

One of the best camera views of the heroic operation that was D-Day which so far has been made available to theatres is the two-reel Technicolor film, "Beachhead to Berlin," photographed by the U. S. Coast Guard and produced with its cooperation. It is a film that makes plain to all who see it the enormity of the undertaking and which brings some comprehension of its cost in lives and materiel. It is deserving of the widest possible exhibition.

The story of D-Day and the preparations for it is told by a Navy chaplain in a letter to home, and the film which depicts the events described in his letter is designed as a tribute to members of the U. S. Chaplain Corps. It was supervised by Gordon Hollingshead and narration is by Charles Linton Tedford. Louis Hesse was film editor. Running time, 20 mins. Release, Jan. 6, 1945.

40 WAC Chairmen Get Honor Plaques

(*Continued from page* 1)

are similar to those distributed some time ago by William F. Rodgers and William Scully, previous WAC national distributor chairman.

The following will receive plaques: Metropolitan district: Ralph Pielow, B. Abner, Jack Bowen; Northeast: Ed W. Ruff, John Moore, M. A. Brown, A. M. Kane; East: Sam Gross, M. E. Lefko, J. B. Brecheen, R. J. Folliard; East Central: Harris Dudelson, Maury Orr, M. Dudelson, Jack Goldhar; Southeast: John E. Holston, Paul Wilson; Southwest: J. B. Underwood, J. J. Rogers, C. A. Gibbs, J. B. Underwood; Midwest: W. E. Banford, W. H. Workman, Don Woods, Sam Shirley; Indiana-Kentucky: Claude McKean; Prairie: Harry Hynes, Jack Langan, Lou Levy, H. B. Johnson, J. E. Garrison; Rocky Mountain: Tom Bailey, G. Davison, J. Herbert McIntyre; West Coast: Vete Stewart, Al Oxtoby, Al Shmitken, Fred Greenberg, Henry Herbe.

The list includes all district and distributor chairmen except E. V. Landaiche, New Orleans; Fred R. Dodson, Atlanta, and C. G. Eastman, Albany, who had been previously honored.

Claude R. Collins, WAC newsreel coordinator in Washington, also will receive a plaque for his work on behalf of the distributors' division.

AMPA Party on Dec. 19

Martin Starr, president of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, announced at the weekend that AMPA's Christmas party, for members and the trade press, will be held Dec. 19.

Long Chicago Holiday

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—Film Row here will be closed for the two three-day holiday weekends at Christmas and New Year's. Only 'skeleton' crews will be on hand to handle emergency matters.

Radio Poll Winners Presented Awards In Air Ceremonies

(*Continued from page* 1)

Sports Announcer" was presented a scroll on his NBC 'Colgate Sports Newsreel of the Air' program on Friday night 10:30.

The New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, voted the 'Best Symphonic Orchestra,' featured an announcement on the orchestra's CBS program, sponsored by United States Rubber Co., at 3 p.m. yesterday. A similar announcement was made on the CBS 'Pause that Refreshes on the Air,' conducted by Andre Kostelanetz and sponsored by Coca Cola. The latter broadcast yesterday at 4:30 p.m. was the final one in the series; Kostelanetz is expected to go overseas shortly. Dick Brown, Mutual network singing star who was voted one of the most promising stars of tomorrow, was formally notified on his program, sponsored by Formfit Co., yesterday at 6:45 p.m.

A scroll will be presented tonight to Raymond Gram Swing, voted 'Best News Commentator' on his Blue program, sponsored by Socony Oil, at 10 p.m. 'Information Please,' sponsored by H. J. Heinz, which was voted 'Best Quiz Show' will feature an announcement tonight at 9:30 on NBC.

Comedian Alan Young, voted 'Most Promising Star of Tomorrow,' will feature an announcement on his Blue program for Bristol-Myers, tomorrow night at 8:30.

Scroll for Paul White

A scroll is scheduled to be presented to Paul White, CBS news director on one of the CBS news programs, this week. CBS was voted the network performing the 'Best News Job' in radio in 1944.

Milton J. Cross, voted 'Best Studio Announcer,' will be presented his scroll on the Blue Metropolitan Opera broadcast, next Saturday, at 2 p.m.; the program is sponsored by Texas Co. Also next Saturday, Guy Lombardo and his orchestra will be awarded the scroll for 'Best Dance Band.' Presentation will be made on the Blue program at 10 p.m., sponsored by Chelsea Cigarettes.

On Sunday, Dec. 17, the George Hicks Blue network short-wave program, sponsored by Scripto Manufacturing Co., will feature an announcement at 1:15 p. m. Hicks was voted the individual who performed the 'Best News Job' in radio in 1944 for his D-Day coverage from the invasion beachhead in Normandy.

A scroll will be presented to Nila Mack, whose 'Let's Pretend' program was voted the 'Best Program for Children,' on her CBS show, sponsored by Cream of Wheat, on Saturday Dec. 30. A scroll will be presented to Samuel Chotzinoff, on behalf of Arturo Toscanini, on the NBC Symphony Orchestra program, sponsored by General Motors. Mastero Toscanini was voted 'Best Symphonic Conductor.'

Scroll presentations to poll winners in California, including Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Joan Davis, John Charles Thomas, Lionel Barrymore, Lux Radio Theatre, Dinah Shore, Tom Breneman's Breakfast At Sardi's and Fibber McGee and Molly, are being set.

Darryl Zanuck Asks End Of German Film Industry

(*Continued from page* 1)

film industry. We can no more trust the Nazi film makers to stick to entertainment than you can trust Nazi munitions makers to stick to plowshares.

Zanuck's address was broadcast by Mutual, along with addresses by Edgar Kobak, president of Mutual, and Kent Cooper, managing director of Associated Press, who spoke of the contributions of radio and press, respectively, in a Nobel program on "Education for Peace in the Post-War World." Dr. Harry Woodburn Chase, chancellor of New York University, presided at the symposiums.

'Undefeated' Myth

"Unless the Nazi film industry is uprooted, absorbed or totally eliminated," Zanuck said in his speech, "we may look forward to a post-war series of apparently innocuous little comedies, dedicated to the theory that while Hitler may have lost the war, Germany and the German people were never actually defeated—and that Germany's day in the sun is yet to come.

"It is impossible for me to draw a line of demarkation between the Nazi munitions industry, which manufactures weapons of war and the Nazi film industry which manufactures weapons of war-propaganda."

Zanuck asserted flatly that disastrous results would follow any attempt by the Government to interfere with the free functioning of the American film business.

"It is my belief," he said, "that the creative motion picture artists of America can best advance the cause of international peace through a program of self-determination. We have already demonstrated our ability to triumph in the entertainment and amusement world and we can do it again if we are guaranteed freedom of action and if the government of the United States, in the negotiation of peace treaties, assures us the same protection it grants to any other American industry engaged in international export. But if American made films are to be excluded, boycotted or restricted by unfair quota laws anywhere in the world, then certainly the prestige of the United States will suffer at a time when such prestige throughout the world is essential if we are to avoid future wars.

No Propaganda

"We are not asking for the opportunity to sell propaganda to the world, even American propaganda, nor are we endeavoring to force democratic ideals down the throat of any foreign nation, friendly or otherwise." Zanuck said while stressing films in re-educating Germany and Japan for peace. As one step in this process he called for films which showed all the horrors wrought in the conquered lands by Germany and Japan and advocated that these be shown to the civilians in these countries to make them understand why they were being punished. These grim documentaries, he said, should be supplemented by a steady flow of better American films made primarily for American consumption.

"I ask for a free screen throughout the world, a competitive screen, Zanuck said. "We will do our part. Protection—yes. We need the active aid of our State Department as does every export industry. Guidance—yes. We need that too so that we do not offend nationals anywhere. But censorship in any form, or governmental interference, will cripple our efforts to aid in this great task," he concluded.

Zanuck made the trip from Hollywood expressly for the dinner, arriving in New York Saturday with Mrs. Zanuck.

French News Agency To Make Newsreels

(*Continued from page* 1)

newsreel, Stuart Legg, producing editor of "The World in Action" series of the National Film Board of Canada, said here after a seven-week trip to France and England.

Although the industrial situation in France is generally poor, a medium-sized plant in the Paris area has begun the production of 35 and 16mm. projectors. The Germans, Legg said, were forced to abandon a number of 16mm. projectors, used to show propaganda films, when they fled Paris. Legg was in England to gather material on two subjects concerning England: one on the postwar outlook for her foreign trade and another on postwar relations between Great Britain and her Dominions. He proceeded to Paris on a Government mission.

Traditional Friendship

Legg said that a fine public relations job could be done with the French people with pictures that point up the traditional friendship between the two countries. The French, who are politically keen, are particularly interested in films depicting America's view toward world peace, he said. Pictures showing the high standard of living in the U. S. would create resentment among the French, he warned, because of depressed living conditions of the French people.

Canadian feature film production remains dubious, Legg said, with John Grierson, Canadian film commissioner, seeking only to have U. S. producers use Canadian stories and background for some features. Possibility exists that an all-Canadian unit of actors and technicians may be formed in Hollywood to work with an American company on films using Canadian stories, he said.

"World in Action" films are released here by United Artists, in about 9,000 U. S. houses. Currently in work is "Balkan Powder Keg."

15 Completed Films In Mono. Backlog

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 10.—Fifteen films for 1944-45 are now in Monogram's backlog of pictures completed and not yet released, according to Trem Carr, executive producer.

Included are: "They Shall Have Faith," "The Adventures of Kitty O'Day," "Crazy Knights," "Dillinger," "Shadow of Suspicion," "The Jade Mask," "Little Devils," "The Navajo Trail," "Army Wives," "Bowery Champs," "The Cisco Kid Returns," "G. I. Honeymoon," "The Cisco Kid Comes Through," "Gunsmoke" and "Alaska."

Hal Laurence Dies

PARIS, Tenn., Dec. 10.—Hal Laurence, in local theatre operations for the past 30 years, died recently after a long illness. Coming here from Illinois, Laurence first managed the Princess and later owned and operated the Dixie. When Crescent Amusement purchased the Dixie it was renamed the Capitol and Laurence was retained as manager.

Building New Theatre

ATKINSON, Neb., Dec. 10.—A. G. Miller has begun construction on the New Miller Theatre.

Mexicans to Censor 'Foreignism' on Air

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 10.—President Manuel Avila Camacho has approved a program for Mexican broadcasters which provides for creation of a board of experts that will censor all foreign expressions from Mexican broadcasts. Long urged by Francisco Ernest Duran, Chihuahua state station operator, the board will see that foreign words, idioms, customs and music are not contained in any broadcasts in Mexico, with special emphasis for the 30 stations on the American border.

Join Mexico's NCIWU

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 10.—Employes of the 11 theatres in the lower California territory have joined the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, affiliated with the Confederation of Mexican Workers.

Blum Assists Mager

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—Florence Illum, former booker for the Reinheimer Circuit here, has joined the Allied Buying and Booking Circuit as assistant to Edward J. Mager. The recent sale of three Reinheimer houses has reduced the booking staff.

Reading Houses Help Combat Epidemic

READING, Pa., Dec. 10.—An increase in the number of scalp ringworm cases here has prompted local theatre managers to enforce temporary regulations regarding children's admissions.

Children of school age will be refused admission during school hours and youngsters, regardless of age, will not be allowed in theatres after seven P. M. unless accompanied by parents.

Officers Re-elected By AFM Local 802

Results of Thursday's election of officers in Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians, here, disclosed at the weekend, showed incumbents re-elected for the sixth successive time.

Re-elected were: Jack Rosenberg, president; Richard McCann, vice-president, Harry Suber, treasurer; William Feinberg, secretary.

Hyman Goes to Maine

Edward L. Hyman, Paramount theatre executive, will attend the annual stockholders meeting of Maine & New Hampshire Theatres Co., affiliate, in Portland Springs, Me., tomorrow.

Drop in Cleveland Except 'Parkington'

CLEVELAND, Dec. 10.—The pre-Christmas slump hit all local theatres about equally. None of the new pictures made par. "Mrs. Parkington," in its second week, on a move-over to Loew's Stillman, from the State, came through with an average take and "Abroad with Two Yanks" held up fairly well in its second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 9:

"The Doughgirls" (WB)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,500).

"None but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $22,100).

"The Conspirators" (WB)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 3rd week, on a moveover. Gross: $2,200. (Average: $3,200).

"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 9 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

"The Merry Monahans" (U)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Charlie Barnet's orchestra and vaudeville. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,400).

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 9 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $19,000).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 9 days, 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

Nedley Luncheon

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 10.—M-G-M will hold an exhibitor luncheon at the Hotel Utah, here, Dec. 15 for theatre owners to meet Carl Nedley, new branch manager, and say farewell to Sam J. Gardner, promoted to Los Angeles. Present will be Jack Flynn, Western sales manager, and George A. Hickey, Western district manager.

Review

"Nevada"

(RKO Radio)

"NEVADA" achieves the status of a superior small-budget Western by virtue of the production value given it by RKO. Players such as Bob Mitchum, Anne Jeffreys, Guinn (Big Boy) Williams, Nancy Gates, Richard Martin and Craig Reynolds rate higher histrionically than the general calibre of Western players; Norman Houston's screen adaptation of the Zane Grey novel is smoother and Edward Killy's direction neatly integrates the whole.

Mitchum, whose laconic performance is somewhat reminiscent of John Wayne, is the leader of a trio of cowpunchers, who succumb to the lure of the gold-rush instead of playing nursemaids to their cattle. Before prospecting, however, Mitchum wins $7,000 in a dice game and is implicated in the murder of Larry Wheat, a homesteader, who was known to have a similar amount in his possession. Saved by his two pals, Williams and Martin, from a near lynching, Mitchum goes on to ferret out the secret of Reynolds, who knows that the lode of ore is a treasure of silver instead of gold, and has been buying up all the land. The usual shootings and fist fights take care of the villains, at the same time killing Miss Jeffreys, who has transferred her affections from Reynolds to the handsome cowboy, with the implication that Mitchum will be romantically consoled by Miss Gates, Wheat's daughter.

Rounding out the cast are Harry Woods, Edmund Glover, Alan Ward, Harry McKim and Jack Overman. Herman Schlom produced; Sid Rogell was executive producer.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* Released in block No. 2.

CHARLES RYWECK

"G" denotes general classification.

Crosley in Television

CINCINNATI, Dec. 10.—Crosley Corp. has made application to the Federal Communications Commission for permission to construct a television station here, according to Robert E. Dunville, vice-president of station WLW. An experimental television station, operated before the war in the Carew Tower, will also be reopened. Richard Hubbell has joined WLW as production director.

Study New Film Rights

The Dramatists Guild council has taken under advisement a number of suggestions for financing of plays prior to sale of their film rights, most of which were proposed by H. William Fitelson, film attorney. The council will attempt to consolidate the suggestions to form part of its basic agreement and will report back to the Guild sometime in January.

San Francisco Big, Holdovers, Too

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10.—Although practically all houses offered holdover bills, grosses were tops.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 6-8:

"Together Again" (Col.)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,600. (Average: $15,000).

"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
"When the Lights Go On Again" (PRC)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $14,500).

"Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $27,000).

"A Wac, a Wave and a Marine" (Mono)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $25,000).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,748) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $20,000).

"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $28,000).

"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 5 days, on a moveover from the Warfield. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,000).

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000).

To Build Negro House

MEMPHIS, Dec. 10.—Plans to build a 400-seat theatre for Negroes in West Memphis have been approved. The theatre will be owned and operated by the Jackson Co., which operates the Crittenden. Approval was obtained because of the large number of war workers in the area.

Happy interlude in Republic's festive ice musical, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE," with the charmingly pensive Vera Hruba Ralston and Screenland's handsome new male lead, Robert Livingston.

ADVT.

Network of

NBC leads the fiel

BOB HOPE—Pepsodent
Champion of Champions
Best Comedian
Best Comedy Show

INFORMATION PLEASE—Heinz
Best Quiz Show

BING CROSBY—Kraft
Best Master of Ceremonies
Best Male Vocalist (Popular)

JOHN CHARLES THOMAS—Westinghouse
Best Male Vocalist (Classical)

JOAN DAVIS—Sealtest
Best Comedienne

BILL STERN—Colgate
Best Sports Announcer

DINAH SHORE—General Foods
Best Feminine Vocalist (Popular)

FIBBER McGEE & MOLLY—Johnson's Wax
Best Comedy Team

THE ARMY HOUR—NBC
Best War Program

ARTURO TOSCANINI—General Motors
Best Symphony Conductor

Champions

n Fame-Motion Picture Daily Poll

• For the past nine years, or ever since the Fame-Motion Picture Daily Poll began, the highest honor—"Champion of Champions"—has gone to an NBC star. This year it's Bob Hope for the fourth successive time. Other NBC programs and personalities are champions, too, taking a grand total of 13 first places . . . more than all other networks combined. And once again NBC's Press service was rated the best in the business.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS
3 out of 5 on NBC
Bob Hope (Pepsodent)
Bing Crosby (Kraft Cheese)
Jack Benny (Lucky Strike)

BEST COMEDY SHOW
3 out of 3 on NBC
Bob Hope (Pepsodent)
Jack Benny (Lucky Strike)
Duffy's Tavern (Bristol-Myers)

BEST COMEDIAN
Top 2 out of 3 on NBC
Bob Hope (Pepsodent)
Jack Benny (Lucky Strike)

BEST COMEDY TEAM
2 out of 3 on NBC
Fibber McGee & Molly (Johnson's Wax)
Abbott & Costello (R. J. Reynolds)

BEST WAR PROGRAM
Top 2 out of 3 on NBC
The Army Hour
Words at War

BEST FEMININE VOCALIST (Popular)
Top 2 out of 3 on NBC
Dinah Shore (General Foods)
Ginny Simms (Philip Morris)

BEST MALE VOCALIST (Popular)
Two out of 3 on NBC
Bing Crosby (Kraft Cheese)
Dick Haymes (Electric Auto-Lite)

BEST MALE VOCALIST (Classical)
Top 2 out of 3 on NBC
John Charles Thomas (Westinghouse)
Richard Crooks (Firestone)

BEST MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Top 2 out of 3 on NBC
Bing Crosby (Kraft Cheese)
Clifton Fadiman (Heinz)

BEST QUIZ PROGRAM
2 out of 3 on NBC
Information Please (Heinz)
Dr. I. Q. (Mars)

BEST NEWS COMMENTATOR
2 out of 3 on NBC
Lowell Thomas (Sun Oil)
H. V. Kaltenborn (Pure Oil)

BEST STUDIO ANNOUNCER
Don Wilson (Lucky Strike)
Harry Von Zell* (General Foods)
**also heard on another network*

National Broadcasting Company

America's Number 1 Network

A Service of Radio Corporation of America

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 10

SUSANNA FOSTER and Charles Korvin will be co-starred in Universal's "Once Upon a Dream," which the writer-producer team of Michael Fessier and Joseph Pagano will make in the Spring. . . . Frank Tuttle has been assigned to direct "Two-Faced Quilligan" for 20th Century-Fox. . . . Alan Mowbray and Franklin Pangborn have been signed for featured roles in Republic's "Tell It to a Star."

•

Paramount producers Pine and Thomas have purchased "Follow that Woman," original by Winston Miller, and plan to use it as a starring vehicle for William Gargan. . . . Vincent Price has been signed by 20th Century-Fox for the male lead opposite Gene Tierney in "Dragonwyck." . . . Republic has renewed Bill Elliott's contract, and arranged an extension of its right to produce and release the "Red Ryder" series, in which he is starred.

•

Janis Carter is set for the feminine lead in "Until Tomorrow," third in Columbia's series of "Whistler" mysteries starring Richard Dix. . . . Robert Livingston will have the male lead in Republic's "Tell It to a Star." Ruth Terry has been assigned the top feminine spot. . . . Stanley Ridges has been signed by Paramount to play the heavy in "Good Intentions," co-starring Eddie Bracken and Veronica Lake. . . . Nina Foch has been set by Columbia to play the feminine lead in the mystery drama, "Out of the Fog."

•

An enormous indoor lake is being constructed at the Samuel Goldwyn studio for "Blood on the Sun," which William Cagney is producing for United Artists. It will be 28,125 square feet. . . . Louise Randall Pierson, author of "Roughly Speaking," has had her Warner contract renewed. . . . Val Burton has been signed to a new writer-producer deal by Universal.

•

Immediately after finishing his role as Eddie Rickenbacker's father in "First, Last and Always," at 20th Century-Fox, Charles Bickford will go East to confer with FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover about Bickford's new air show, "The Secret Room." . . . John Sheridan, who makes his debut in Warners' "Hollywood Canteen," has had his contract extended. . . . George Lait, INS correspondent, has been signed by producer Lester Cowan for a role in "G. I. Joe."

Nicaraguan Film Set for Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 10.—Gabry Rivas, Managua publisher and Nicaraguan congressman, reported recently that a new production company, to be financed by Nicaraguan capital, will be established here shortly.

Rivas, who several years ago worked in Hollywood as an actor, has an interest in the new company, which is reported to be the first Central American production unit in Mexico. Mexican players will be featured.

Radio Editors Call for More New Program Ideas

(Continued from page 1)

set-up, networks and even independent stations lack the facilities for developing them," Ben Gross, radio editor of the New York *Daily News* wrote. To overcome this situation, he suggests the creation of regional stations, supported by all the networks, whose sole function would be the creation and development of new program features. Those which fail to click, under Gross's plan, would be discarded, but those which succeed would be transferred to the commercial stations.

Intelligence in Daytime

From New York another radio editor wrote: "Radio could use, from somewhere, some new, original talent and something off the beaten-track in programs." Suggested by the same editor, among other things, are some "respectable, intelligent daytime programs; the elimination of hitch-hike and cow-catcher commercials entirely and the elimination of the middle commercial on 15-minute news shows."

From California came this: "There needs to be more experimental work in the field of programming. There is too much of a sameness. Some way should be found to get new writers. Radio should have a chance to keep the world informed on peace table developments."

A radio editor in Florida had the following to say: "Let's have more young talent. Let's have less 'smaltz'. Let us have more forum broadcasts. They educate the people to both schools of learning."

More Dignity

From Massachusetts, a radio editor calls for more originality in variety shows and better programs for daytime listeners. "There is practically no difference in the format of any one of the variety shows, even the popular ones," he said. He suggests fewer recorded commercials; recommends placing commercials at the beginning and end of a program so as not to break into the program, and, finally, pleads for more dignity in radio to raise it to an artistic expression of entertainment.

"Radio needs to open up some outstanding preferred time for experimental development in program structure which would be more valuable to the industry than dollars gained in selling time completely," a radio editor in Ohio wrote.

Citing the trend toward giving public service programs a better break, in time, as a healthy one, a New York radio editor calls for more encouragement and more publicity for this idea than it has had.

"Radio is and will continue to be, I believe, a tremendous force in the molding of public opinion," an editor in Oregon wrote, adding: "The industry should accept its responsibility, which it has not always done, and make the most of it."

A suggestion for airing political messages in future campaigns is embodied in the remarks of a Connecticut editor. "One of my readers suggested that instead of cancelling so many programs, political parties could make a deal with sponsors to take over certain programs and substitute complete messages for the usual commercials," he wrote. "Listeners would thus not lose the entertainment they expect and politicians could still get their ideas across, to a larger audience," he added.

More Canadian News

"Most of the commercial announcements on programs are either too long, too overdone, or presented in a manner to appeal to a listener audience of low I.Q.", wrote a Missouri editor. "Key necessary Government announcements to the intelligence of the average person, which is no longer that of a seven-year old child", a Virginia editor suggested. "Put commercials either at the beginning or end of symphonic programs", wrote a Maryland editor. "Less commercial announcements in the middle of newscasts", a Canadian editor suggests, calling for more Canadian news on American newscasts and the dropping by announcers of the word or term England when Great Britain should be correctly used.

"Radio is doing fine, but it is about time for the commercial script writers to grow up with the industry and address their appeals to adult audiences, which are undoubtedly in the majority, except possibly during the children's show period," a Pennsylvania editor wrote. "Perhaps the script writers are directing their appeals to grown-ups," he concedes, but he adds that the reaction he has heard in his section sounds like the listeners have had too much "talking down to."

Better Television Now

An interesting suggestion on the present status of television came from a New York editor. "The television boys should forget their row over alleged high-quality as a postwar possibility and get busy to make their present setup come up to the standards they might be expected to produce," he said.

A call for improvement in the 'piping' of name bands into the Midwest came from an Illinois editor. "We in the Midwest have been griped because the major networks do not 'pipe' their swing and jazz musical shows into our listening range. At night we get only the poorer commercial bands at local night spots, instead of piping in the major commercial bands which play the West and East Coasts. I find many of our readers voicing the same complaint," he pointed out.

Gottlieb Heads Club

DES MOINES, Dec. 10.—Harry Gottleib of 20th Century-Fox here has been elected president of the Iowa Film Salesmen's Club. Other officers are: Milton Feinberg, also of 20th-Fox, secretary, and Bill Curry, Paramount, treasurer.

Cinema Names Fermoyle

BOSTON, Dec. 10.—The Cinema Club of Boston has elected Tom Fermoyle, president; Hi Young, vice president; Frank Wolfe, secretary, and Cyril McGerigle, treasurer. Sam Berg and Harry Smith were added to the executive committee.

Only 'Tomorrow' Is Over Par: $15,000

CINCINNATI, Dec. 10.—With holdovers predominating and Christmas shopping gaining momentum, the box office curve here was depressed to the average point or below. The exception, however, is "And Now Tomorrow," one of the new arrivals, which is expected to bring approximately $15,000 to RKO's Albee.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 6-9:

"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Together Again" (Col.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Gangs of New York" (Rep. reissue)
"Gangs of Chicago" (Rep. reissue)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $2,200. (Average: $2,400).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500).
"None But the Lonely Heart (RKO)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO-Goldwyn)
RKO-LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 5th week, following two weeks at the Palace and two weeks at the Lyric. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,500).
"Doughgirls" (WB)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,000).

'Bernadette' Does a Sensational Week

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 10.—"The Song of Bernadette" started a sensational run at the Fulton this week with an estimated $12,000 gross.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 4-8:

"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)
FULTON—(1,700) (55c-76c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,500).
"Together Again" (Col.)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $21,700).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, on a moveover from the Warner. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
"Meet Miss Bobby Socks" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500, on a moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,450).

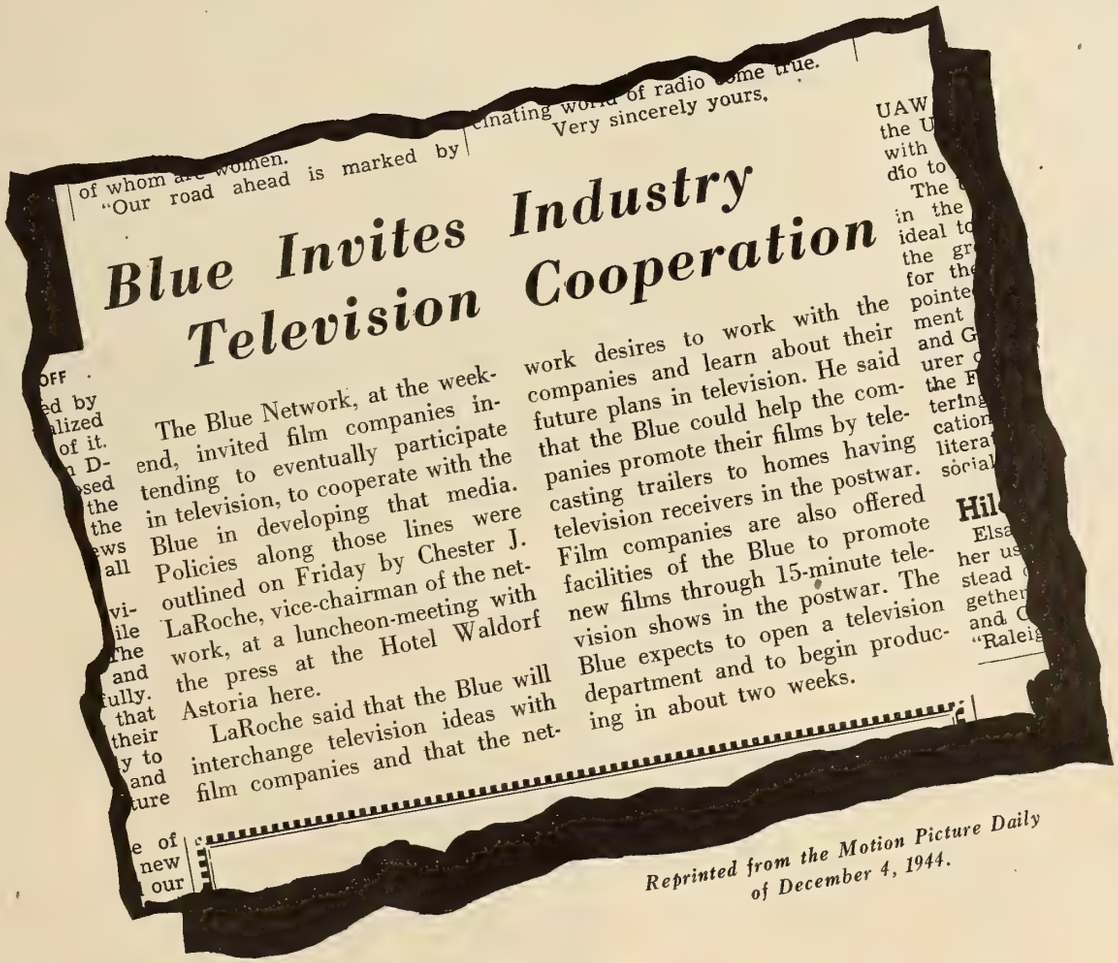
'Music' Plays to a Heavy $15,000

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10.—"Music in Manhattan" at the Circle will do $15-000, with a stage show.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 7-8:

"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"The Girl Who Dared" (Rep.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,600).
"They Live in Fear" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Stage show. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, on a moveover from Indiana. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,900).

The Blue Network makes news in the Motion Picture Industry



Blue Invites Industry Television Cooperation

The Blue Network, at the weekend, invited film companies intending to eventually participate in television, to cooperate with the Blue in developing that media. Policies along those lines were outlined on Friday by Chester J. LaRoche, vice-chairman of the network, at a luncheon-meeting with the press at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria here.

LaRoche said that the Blue will interchange television ideas with film companies and that the network desires to work with the companies and learn about their future plans in television. He said that the Blue could help the companies promote their films by telecasting trailers to homes having television receivers in the postwar. Film companies are also offered facilities of the Blue to promote new films through 15-minute television shows in the postwar. The Blue expects to open a television department and to begin producing in about two weeks.

Reprinted from the Motion Picture Daily of December 4, 1944.

THIS IS THE BLUE NETWORK

AMERICAN BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.

'Tomorrow' Is Only Run Over Average

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 10.—"And Now Tomorrow," at the Palace, hit $13,000, with most other houses reporting business off due to bad weather.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 8:

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,000).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
"Sergeant Mike" (Col.)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
"End of the Road" (Rep.)
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
"Ray Parker" and four Acts on Stage:
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500.
"None but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days. ross: $13,500. (Average: $14,000).

'Tomorrow' and 'Big' Are Very Big

OMAHA, Dec. 10.—"And Now Tomorrow," dualled with "Take It Big," ran away with boxoffice laurels this week, hitting $14,900 at the Orpheum.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 6-7:

"The Doughgirls" (WB)
"Yellow Canary" (RKO)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $6,500).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $7,600. (2nd week for "Irish Eyes"). (Average: $8,400).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,900. (Average: $9,800).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $11,700).

20th Gets 'Knights'

The film rights to "Two Arabian Knights," which was originally produced in 1927 with Ben Lyons and Louis Wolheim, have been acquired by 20th Century-Fox from Howard Hughes.

Television Coordinators At 1st Conference Today

(Continued from page 1)

pele, conference chairman, raps the opening gavel at 10 o'clock this morning.

Motion piceure home office executives and Hollywood representatives are among those on the conference registration rolls, likewise representatives of the Soviet Union's purchasing commission, here, British Broadcasting Corp. and from radio-television executives in Peru, Chile and Argentine.

Speakers at the opening session this morning will report on television progress to date and are expected to outline prospects for the postwar period. Dr. W. R. G. Baker, vice-president of General Electric, and E. W. Engstrom, director of research of RCA Laboratories are scheduled to speak on "New Horizons in Television."

Discuss Programming

"Television Programming" will be discussed by John F. Royal, NBC vice-president in charge of television; Robert L. Gibson, GE executive and Thomas H. Hutchinson of RKO Television Corp. An outline of plans for establishing coaxial cable and radio-relay networks for television is to be given by Harold S. Osborne, chief engineer of American Telephone and Telegraph.

Lewis Allen Weiss, executive vice-president of Don Lee Broadcasting, and vice-president of TBA will discuss "Television and the Broadcaster" at today's luncheon-meeting. The afternoon will be devoted to a series of panel meetings in which broadcasters, manufacturers, program producers, advertising agencies, publications, talent and theatre interests will take part. These meetings were arranged by Dorman D. Israel, vice-president in charge of engineering and production at Emerson Radio and Television.

Gold medals and plaques are to be awarded to television leaders for outstanding contributions to television development as a highlight of the evening's banquet program. Paul Raibourn, Paramount economist, is chairman of the awards committee.

A feature of the banquet will be a 45-minute program of entertainment to be televised to the Commodore ballroom and received on 30 television sets there. Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice-president of RKO Television, will produce the show, which will be radiated alternately by WNBT, NBS's station, and WABD, DuMont's outlet.

Tomorrow morning's session will feature an address by Com. W. C. Eddy of the U. S. Navy, former program manager of the Balaban and Katz television station in Chicago. Also scheduled is a roundtable discussion and question-answer period, in which top-flight television engineers will participate.

A program of entertainment will highlight tomorrow's luncheon. Walter O'Keefe will be master of ceremonies with Ed Wynn, Victor Borge and Larry Brooks among those taking part.

The meeting will conclude the active sessions of the conference. Visits to New York's three television stations will follow.

The conference is sponsored by 14 active and 16 affiliated TBA members. Active members are Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Balaban and Katz, Bamberger Broadcasting Service, Crosley, Don Lee Broadcasting System, Earl C. Anthony, General Electric, Hughes Productions, National Broadcasting, Philco Radio and Television, Television Productions, The Journal Company and WGN, Inc. Application of Farnsworth Television and Radio Corp., which is also sponsoring the meet, is awaiting approval of TBA's board of directors.

Affiliated Members

Affiliated member sponsors are: Buchanan and Co., Capital Radio Engineering Institute, Cecil B. DeMille Productions, Emerson Radio, General Electric, Midland Broadcasting, North American Philips Co., Raytheon Manufacturing, RCA Victor, RKO Television, Theatre Guild, Time, Inc., Western Electric, and William Morris Agency. Applications of Federal Telephone and Radio and Rauland Corp. for affiliated memberships are awaiting approval of the TBA board.

Five television producers at advertising agencies in New York are to address the advertising panel at the conference this afternoon. They include: Lee Cooley of Ruthrauff & Ryan; Frederick A. (Ted) Long, Batton, Barton, Durstine and Osborn; William E. Forbes, Young and Rubican; Don McClure, N. W. Ayer Co. and Herbert Leder of Benton and Bowles. Elkin Kaufman of William E. Weintraub Co. will preside.

Eight television producers will participate in the producers' television panel, of which RKO's Hutchinson will be in charge. Those to be heard include: Raymond E. Nelson of Charles M. Strom Agency, whose topic will be, "Musical Comedy and Variety Programs"; Irving Shane, Television Workshop on "Sources of Program Material"; Herbert Graf, Metropolitan Opera Association now producing shows for NBC, on "Putting the Opera in Television"; Robert Emery, Bamberger Broadcasting Service, on "Spontaneous Programs"; Hoyland Bettinger, GE, on "Today's Chief Production Problems"; Edward Sobol, NBC, on "Television Actors from the Producer's Point of View"; Lee Cooley, Ruthrauff and Ryan, on "Putting Over the Television Commercial", and B. B. Gamble, Television Producers Association, on "Special Effects in Television Programs".

To the Editors of United States and Canada who voted Earle Ferris and Staff as the INDIVIDUAL PUBLICITY OFFICES GIVING THE BEST PUBLICITY SERVICE

Our sincerest thanks

All the folks in the offices of

EARLE FERRIS

'Now Tomorrow' To $13,500 in 2nd

BUFFALO, Dec. 10. — "Together Again" rounded out a fine two weeks at the Lafayette, with $11,000 for the second week. "And Now Tomorrow" and "The National Barn Dance" was tops in a moveover week at the Hippodrome. The weather was cold and snowy.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 9:

"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,400).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $16,200).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
"Th National Barn Dance" (Para.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 8 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $9,700).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,200).
"Together Again" (Col.)
"The Ghost That Walks Alone" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days ("Together Again," 2nd week.) Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,400).

Chicago Paper Has Free Picture Ads

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—The *Downtown Shopping News*, advertising paper here, distributed twice weekly to 650,000 homes, is listing current bills in Chicago theatres' free of charge. Over 100 houses are already carried, and the balance will also be included when copy information becomes available. Theatres are benefitting, due to lack of space in local dailies. *Shopping News* will devote almost a page to the feature for six months before seeking paid advertising. Local film houses are looking for new advertising outlets.

St. Louis Strike Toll Reaches 63 Houses

(Continued from page 1)

refused to show newly scheduled newsreels. These theatres are the city's major first-run outlets for M-G-M films.

Negotiations are still deadlocked, and it was predicted all houses will be dark this week unless the stalemate is broken quickly. The unions cooperated, however, at war bond premieres last night, for which 3,100 tickets had been issued.

The strike is an effort to force the Ozark Theatre in Webster Groves and the Osage and Kirkwood in Kirkwood to employ union projectionists. Those houses still remain open.

FIRST IN THE WEST WITH

- ★ ALL-TELEVISION STATION
- ★ TELEVISION BROADCASTING
- ★ ALL-TELEVISION BUILDING
- ★ FREQUENCY MODULATION
- ★ ALL-FM BUILDING

FIRST ON THE PACIFIC COAST WITH

- ★ NETWORK RADIO BROADCASTING
- ★ COMPLETE RADIO COVERAGE (38 *Stations*)

And now—First in the West actually to buy a television site of the height considered most advantageous for Frequency Modulation and Television Broadcasting. Don Lee's purchase of a site atop Mt. Wilson, home of the famous Mount Wilson Observatory, will give KHJFM and W6XAO a transmitter height of 5,900 feet for Frequency Modulation and Television Broadcasting. No finer site in Southern California could be obtained.

THOMAS S. LEE, *President*
LEWIS ALLEN WEISS, *Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.*
5515 Melrose Ave., Hollywood 38, California
Represented Nationally by JOHN BLAIR & CO.

Mutual
DON LEE

The Nation's Greatest Regional Network

LEADS THE WEST IN ALL THREE TYPES OF BROADCASTING

People will tell people

The word will go from the cities to the towns

And from the towns to the villages everywhere

And the whole country will know about it.

That's the kind of a picture "GUEST IN THE HOUSE" *is*

Presented by

HUNT STROMBERG

starring

ANNE BAXTER *with* RALPH BELLAMY

ALINE MacMAHON • RUTH WARRICK

SCOTT McKAY • MARIE McDONALD

Jerome Cowan • Percy Kilbride • Margaret Hamilton • Connie Laird

From the Stage Play by Hagar Wilde and Dale Eunson • Screen Play by Ketti Frings

Director of Photography, Lee Garmes, A.S.C. • Directed by JOHN BRAHM

Released thru United Artists

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 112 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1944 TEN CENTS

Higher Booth Equipment Quotas in '45

411 Projectors on WPB First-Quarter Schedule

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Marked increases in the production of projection booth equipment in the first quarter of 1945 are provided for in a program for the coming three months which has been approved by the War Production Board, it was learned here today.

The schedule calls for 411 projectors, as against 335 approved for the current quarter; 201 sound systems, against 156; 433 lamp houses, against 365, and 413 rectifiers, against 360.

Conversations regarding first-quarter production have been going on for

(*Continued on page 6*)

Services for Towell Today; 20th Closes

Funeral services for Sydney Towell, vice-president and treasurer of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp., who died Saturday morning following an automobile accident on Riverside Drive, will be held this morning at 10:30 A.M. at Christ Episcopal Church, Bronxville. Interment will be at the Chapel of the Lilies, Ferncliff,

(*Continued on page 4*)

Michel, Brecher Aid Red Cross War Fund

N. Peter Rathvon, national chairman of "Red Cross Movie Week" in the 1945 Red Cross War Fund campaign, set for March, has appointed W. C. Michel, executive vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, as chairman of the corporate gifts committee for the industry's drive, and Leo Brecher, local exhibitor, as associate national campaign director. Brecher will work in conjunction with Leon J. Bamberger, who was appointed national campaign director last week

Rathvon, presently in Hollywood, is expected to return to New York this week where he will complete the organization and appointment of other industry committees to assist in the campaign.

Public Will Not Buy Video Sets to See Films, TBA is Told

With representatives of theatres, broadcasters, manufacturers, program producers, advertising agencies, publications and talent attending, the first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association opened at the Hotel Commodore here yesterday. Approximately 1,000 attended a luncheon session addressed by Louis Allen Weiss, vice-president of the Don Lee Broadcasting System, and TBA vice-president.

"The use of films in television programs seems to provide a simple, economic answer to television programming from the broadcaster's point of

(*Continued on page 4*)

Western Electric in Video in Post-war

Western Electric will manufacture television transmitting equipment in the post-war, according to an announcement made here yesterday by F. R. Lack, vice-president in charge of the company's radio division.

Lack pointed out that during peacetime Western Electric is the manufacturing and supply unit of the Bell system and a manufacturer of radio broadcasting equipment. Since Pearl Harbor, he said, "the company has become the nation's largest producer of communications and electronic devices for the Armed Forces."

Supplementing W.E.'s plans for manufacturing in television, Lack indicated that "an active program of television development will be undertaken as soon as war conditions permit." The postwar transmitting equipment will be distributed through Graybar Electric Co., an affiliate.

U. S. WINS APPEAL IN CRESCENT CASE

Strike Suit This Week

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 11.—With more than three-fourths of St. Louis' theatres closed and the Fox expected to close tonight when an attempt will be made to show a preview of a film on the "unfair" list, theatre owners today prepared to go to court to seek an end to the dispute now in its 10th day.

Ben Liberman, attorney for the exhibitors, announced he will file suit in the Federal and probably the State courts about the middle of the week, asking an injunction to restrain the unions from continuing the strike and seeking treble damages for losses suffered by the theatres. Attorneys for the unions said the suits have been expected, and the unions are prepared to defend them. It is the unions' position that the courts have no jurisdiction.

Louis K. Ansell, secretary of the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Local 306 to Boycott Republic Product

Alleged failure of Republic to employ union projectionists in its home office projection room has caused IATSE New York Projectionists Local No. 306, to serve notice on Loew's, Warners, Paramount and RKO, that starting Monday, Dec. 18, members of 306 will not handle Re-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Divestiture Order Is Upheld by Supreme Court, Five to One

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11. — The Supreme Court today rendered an opinion in the Crescent Amusement case denying the defendants the relief they had sought from the decision of the Federal District court at Nashville and granting the Government its requested expansion of the decree to prohibit future acquisitions of a financial interest in additional theatres outside of Nashville, except after an affirmative showing that such acquisition will not unreasonably restrain competition.

In denying the Crescent companies' contentions that the divestiture provisions of the Government decree are unreasonable and punitive, asserting that the Government should not be confined to an injunction against further violations, the court said:

"Dissolution of the combination will be ordered where the creation of the combination is itself the violation."

In only one respect did the court agree with the companies, holding

(*Continued on page 6*)

Sudekum May Not Seek Re-Hearing

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 11.—Although neither Tony Sudekum nor his attorneys were inclined today to discuss a possible re-hearing of the Crescent anti-trust case, it has been apparent since the rendering of an adverse decision in the U. S. District Court here by Judge Elmer D. Davies that Crescent's stake in the litigations is not sufficient of itself to justify the prolonged litigation principles involved and that the significance of the issues to the whole business of film distribution and exhibition have largely

(*Continued on page 6*)

"The Three Caballeros"

[*RKO-Radio-Disney*]

A WONDROUS film that delights for every second of its 70 minutes has been wrought by Walt Disney and his fellow craftsmen in "The Three Caballeros." Disney dazzles with color and sound and delights with comedy and story incident. A felicitous combination of 'live' action and animation, "Three Caballeros" weaves a spell enchantment. He has come up with something truly spectacular, yet wholly sound box office.

Donald Duck, and his two Latin-American birds-of-a-feather, 'Joe Carioca' and 'Panchito', are a lusty trio. They soar on wings of imagination one minute, and are principals in a low-comedy gag the next. Disney warms up with several stories of a cold-blooded penguin, who seeks a warm climate, and a winged-donkey, captured by a little gaucho,

(*Continued on page 4*)

Also Reviewed Today

In addition to the review of "The Three Caballeros," appearing in adjoining columns, "She's a Sweetheart" and "Song of the Range" are reviewed on page 7.

Ohio PTA Protests Sliding Scales

Columbus, O., Dec. 11.—The Ohio Congress of Parents and Teachers here, through action taken by its state board, in a resolution, "registers its protest against the too common habit of raising prices for a good picture, since prices are not lowered for the poor ones," adding:

"Our desire is that more people should see more good pictures and the advance in price automatically decreases the attendance."

Launch Comerford With Walker Eulogy

BRUNSWICK, Ga., Dec. 11.—The *S.S. M. E. Comerford,* named in honor of the late head of the Comerford theatre circuit, was launched here this afternoon, with Frank C. Walker, Postmaster General, and a nephew of the theatre owner, delivering the principal address. The ship was christened by Comerford's widow; his daughter, Mrs. Thomas Friday, was co-sponsor.

Walker declared, in part: "Today we give to the water a ship of the United States. This ship is a good ship—M. E. Comerford, for whom she is named, was a good man, part of a great body of men who loved and served their country. All of us who knew the late M. E. Comerford are grateful to Admiral Land and the Maritime Commission for their generous action in naming this ship for him. His former employees are represented here, and have contributed the ship's library in memory of him, and as a symbol of their good wishes to the men who will sail her."

Comerford, said Walker, "contributed to the entertainment and education of great numbers in Pennsylvania and New York. He was generous. His association with his employees was as near an approach to a perfect relationship as any I have ever observed. He inspired not only loyalty in his associates, but their esteem and affection."

Buchman May Obtain Columbia Release

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 11. — Sidney Buchman, vice-president and assistant production head of Columbia, who plans to become an independent producer in January when his executive producership pact expires, may release through Columbia, although no actual deal has been set as yet.

Buchman joined Columbia in 1942 as a writer and supervisor.

Lantz Appoints Rogers

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 11. — Walter Lantz, cartoon producer, has named Budd Rogers as his Eastern representative.

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, left the Coast over the weekend for a tour of Southwest exchanges en route back to New York.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures, arrived in Hollywood yesterday for conferences with H. J. YATES, SR., chairman of the board.

•

H. A. SIMONS of Chicago, JOSEPH KRONMAN of Washington and M. BERGER of Cincinnati, M-G-M branch office managers, have arrived in New York.

•

ALFRED W. CROWN, vice president of International Theatrical and Television Corp., has returned to New York from the Coast.

•

L. M. MCKECHNEAY, treasurer of Tri-States Theatre Corp., Des Moines, affiliated with Paramount, is visiting in New York.

•

SAMUEL BRONSTON, producer, was taken to a hospital in Hollywood yesterday suffering from a serious stomach ailment.

•

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M's British production chief, who arrived here Friday from London, is en route to the Coast.

•

E. K. O'SHEA, Eastern sales manager for M-G-M, left yesterday on a 10-day tour of Southern branches.

•

HARRY BLAIR, PRC's advertising and publicity head, will leave today for Dunkirk, N. Y.

DAVID E. ROSE, Paramount's managing director in Great Britain, arrived here by plane yesterday from London. He will leave for the Coast soon after Jan. 1.

•

WILLIAM HURLBUT of Detroit, LON T. FIDLER of Denver, HERMAN RIFKIN of Boston, C. W. TRAMPE, Milwaukee, and ARTHUR C. BROMBERG of Atlanta have returned to their home territories following Monogram's annual directors' meeting in Hollywood.

•

SIMON SCHIFFRIN, representative of the motion picture division of the French Ministry of Information, and PIERRE BLANCHAR, president of the Liberation Committee of the French Cinema, are en route to the Coast from New York.

•

MAJOR DEFROIS SIEGFRIED, former Eastman Kodak engineer in Rochester, has been promoted to lieutenant colonel at Wright Field, Dayton, O.

•

HOWARD DIETZ, M-G-M director of advertising and publicity, has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

•

IKE and HARRY KATZ, PRC franchise holders in Atlanta, are due in New York today.

•

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK's departure from Hollywood for New York has been delayed.

•

SID KULICK, PRC's Eastern division sales manager, left yesterday for Philadelphia.

•

BOB INGRAM, Columbia's Southern division manager, is in New Orleans.

Bernhard Calls WB Circuit Meeting

A meeting of Warner Theatres' zone managers, film buyers and home office executives will be held here Thursday. In addition to Joseph Bernhard, general manager, and Harry M. Kalmine, assistant general manager, home office executives participating will include: Clayton Bond, Harry Goldberg, Frank Phelps, Sam Morris, Louis Kaufman, Frank Marshall, Nat Fellman, Herman Maier, Jules Levey, Rudolph Weiss, Frank E. Cahill, Martin E. Bennett and Dan Triester.

Zone managers at the meeting will include: James E. Coston, Chicago; Nat Wolf, Cleveland; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven; Frank Damis, Newark; C. J. Latta, Albany; Ted Schlanger, Philadelphia; M. A. Silver, Pittsburgh; John J. Payette, Washington; Howard Waugh, Memphis. Film buyers will include Burt Jacocks, Max Hoffman, New Haven; Sam Blaskey, Newark; Max Friedman, Albany; John Turner, Philadelphia; George Crouch, Washington; Harry Feinstein, Pittsburgh; Alex Halperin, Chicago; Tony Stern, Cleveland.

67% in Service Ask Former Film Posts

Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., before returning to the Coast from New York over the weekend, disclosed that in a survey of post-war plans of former employees now in the Armed Forces it was found that 67 per cent plan to return to the company, nine per cent will come back if offered a better position, 13 per cent are undecided, while 11 per cent do not intend to return.

"This is believed to be the first survey, in the film industry at least, to ascertain the plans, sentiments and problems of service men and women with regard to the future," the Warner home office reported.

Since the replies came from former employees in all branches of the Warner organization, studio, home office, exchanges, theatres, etc., the analysis is believed by Warner to be a representative cross-section of thought on the part of all former industry workers now in service.

Warnerites in uniform now total 3,680. Thirty-eight have been killed in action and 11 are reported missing.

NEW YORK THEATRES

HELD OVER 4th WEEK
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647
REPUBLIC THEATER
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
Irene DUNNE + Charles BOYER
'TOGETHER AGAIN'
with Charles Coburn
A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

NOW PLAYING AT MUSIC HALL
HELD OVER SECOND WEEK
Extra! EXCLUSIVE AND TRUE!
THE NEW MARCH OF TIME
INSIDE CHINA TODAY

STATE
ON SCREEN
First N. Y. Showing!
'CAROLINA BLUES'
Kay Kyser • Ann Miller
Victor Moore
IN PERSON
MILT BRITTON and ORCH.
HARRY SAVOY

Alan Ladd ★ Loretta Young
in PARAMOUNT'S
"AND NOW TOMORROW"
In Person
GLEN GRAY and the Casa Loma Orchestra
ANDY RUSSELL
JERI SULIAVAN
SON & SONNY
WALLY BROWN and ALAN CARNEY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
CARY GRANT
IN
"None But the Lonely Heart"
WITH
MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE
BARRY FITZGERALD

Canteen Honors USCG

The Silver Screen Canteen, sponsored here by the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, Local 109, and staffed by employes of home offices and exchanges, will honor personnel of Ellis Island Coast Guard Receiving station tomorrow night at the Fraternal Clubhouse.

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VERA HRUBA RALSTON

in

LAKE PLACID SERENADE

A Miracle of Entertainment!

featuring

EUGENE PALLETTE
VERA VAGUE
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
STEPHANIE BACHELOR

with

WALTER CATLETT · LLOYD CORRIGAN
RUTH TERRY · WILLIAM FRAWLEY
JOHN LITEL · LUDWIG STOSSEL
ANDREW TOMBES
and RAY NOBLE AND ORCHESTRA
HARRY OWENS
and HIS ROYAL HAWAIIANS

Ice Specialties

McGOWAN AND MACK · TWINKLE WATTS
THE MERRY MEISTERS
with GUEST STAR

ROY ROGERS
KING OF THE COWBOYS

STEVE SEKELY — DIRECTOR
Original Story by Frederick Kohner
Screen Play by Dick Irving Hyland
and Doris Gilbert

IT'S A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Sarnoff, Zworykin, WABD Get Awards

Achievement awards were made to 16 television leaders at the first annual conference banquet of the Television Broadcasters Association at the Hotel Commodore last night.

First awards went to Dr. Vladimir K. Zworykin, director of electronic research at RCA Laboratories, for technical pioneering in engineering; to station WABD of New York City, operated by DuMont, for programs; and to Brig. General David Sarnoff, on leave from the presidency of RCA, for general contributions to television. Paul Raibourn, chairman of the committee on awards, presented gold medals to those cited.

Bonds Slow B'way; 'St. Louis' Leads

"Free Movie Day" and Christmas shopping were contributors to the general weakness of New York first-runs in the past week. The Astor, with "Meet Me in St. Louis," was an exception, taking an excellent $36,000 in the second week, ending last night, pulling almost as well as its initial $37,000.

The Capitol maintained a goodly clip, grossing $43,000 in the first four days of the fourth week, with "30 Seconds Over Tokyo" and a stage show featuring Jimmy Dorsey and band and Henny Young, headed for $65,000 for the week. The combination will continue for a fifth week and then make way for "Music for Millions." The Paramount, with "And Now Tomorrow" and a stage show featuring Glen Gray and his band, is expected to bring a profitable $65,000 for the third week on the basis of a weekend figure of $32,000; it will continue for a fourth.

$94,000 for 'Together'

Radio City Music Hall expects a slow $94,000 for the third and final week of "Together Again," on the basis of $60,000 for the four days, ending Sunday night. "National Velvet" and the Hall's Christmas show start on Thursday. "Something for the Boys" and a stage show presenting Pearl Primus, Jimmy Savo and Mildred Bailey at the Roxy expect a quiet $56,000 for the second week on the basis of $44,000 for five days; it will continue for a third week, making way for "Winged Victory" on Dec. 20. "None but the Lonely Heart" is bidding for a moderate $17,000 in its fourth week on the basis of a weekend take of $8,600 at the Palace, being replaced by "Tall in the Saddle" on Friday.

The Strand, with "The Very Thought of You" and Abe Lyman and his band on the stage, are expecting $30,000 for a fourth and final week, with "Hollywood Canteen" and Lionel Hampton and his orchestra coming in on Friday. The Hollywood, with "To Have and Have Not" is holding up strong in its ninth week, with a good $21,500 expected; it will continue. The 12th week of "Frenchman's Creek" is expected to bring the Rivoli about $20,000. "Bowery to Broadway" is heading for a moderate $20,000 in its second and last week, with "The Climax" opening tomorrow. "Dark Waters," at the Globe, is reaching for $17,500 in its third week and will continue for a fourth, with "Tomorrow the World" replacing on Dec. 21. "Summer Storm" bounded back in its eighth week at the Gotham, with $8,200 expected. "Three Is a Family" will open at this house on Dec. 19. "Brazil" was heading for a slow $3,500 in its fourth week at the Republic. "Lake Placid Serenade" will open on Dec. 23.

$5,040 for 'Wilson'

"Wilson," at the Victoria, expects $5,040 on the basis of $3,600 for the first five days of the 12th week, winding up on Dec. 19. "The Falcon in Hollywood" is expected to gross a moderate $7,500 for its seven days at the Rialto, yielding to "House of Frankenstein" on Friday.

Last week's "Free Movie Day" outdistanced a similar event for the Fifth War Loan by nearly ten per cent, according to C. C. Moskowitz, Loew executive. The public, Moskowitz stated, shops around for the best value within reach at the highest admission prices. "This is indicated by the way Broadway and deluxe neighborhood houses were swamped," he said.

Moskowitz said that the Astor manager estimated that the day cost the box office $1,000; the Capitol's estimate was $2,000. "Loew's New York circuit probably forfeited around $7,000 worth of business, and with bond premieres, special advertising materials and other items entering into an active bond drive," he estimated that "the cost to Loew's would run not far from $10,000."

"The Three Caballeros"

(Continued from page 1)

who wins a horse race, and then gets down to the business at hand. Donald, you see, has been merely an on-looker at these sequences, projecting them on a screen in his home by a projector gift sent by his Latin American friends.

Joe Carioca appears and takes Donald to Brazil and Mexico, where they meet the third character of the trio, Panchito. Good music, good dancing and singing then ensue. Disney depicts live characters, cuts back to the cartoons and then juggles them both in the same scene. The result is entrancing. There are rhumbas and sambas galore; there are the dances native to Mexico and there are pretty girls by the score, weaving their intricate dance steps, singing their romantic melodies. Once Donald succumbs to the magic of the rhythm and the smiles of the senoritas, he is reluctant to leave and it takes all the strength of Joe and Panchito to drag him away.

Featured in the live section are Aurora Miranda, Carmen Molina and Dora Luz, with Sterling Holloway the best known of other voices and singers too numerous to list. The score, which is tops, includes "The Three Caballeros," "Baia," "Os Quindins de Yaya," "You Belong to My Heart" and "Mexico," among others.

Ray Rennahan deserves plaudits for his photography; Richard F. Irvine for his art direction in the live-action sequences, with Harold Young and Larry Lansburgh also deserving of a bow. A long list of animators, artists and weavers of the story line deserve credit in the animated sequences. Norman Ferguson was responsible for production supervision and direction.

"Three Caballeros" is a rich potpourri of many aspects of the cinema, presented fancifully. It will catch the imagination of young and old and will serve as a source of endless enjoyment.

Running time, 70 mins. "G"* Release date not set.

CHARLES RYWECK

** "G" denotes general classification.*

Bronx Theatre in Deal

S. K. Realties, Inc., has purchased from the Bowery Savings Bank the property, including a theatre and a nine-story building, at 195th St., Bronx. Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft were the attorneys for the bank and Ernest Hertz was counselor for the purchaser. Broker was Morris Poole.

Services for Towell Today; 20th Closes

(Continued from page 1)

Ardsley-on-Hudson. The 20th-Fox home office will be closed all day today.

Among honorary pall-bearers will be: Spyros P. Skouras, Joseph M. Schenck, Darryl F. Zanuck, Charles P. Skouras, Tom J. Connors, John R. Dillon, Richard E. Dwight, W. C. Gehring, Hal Horne, Felix A. Jenkins, Larry Kent, W. C. Michel, Joseph H. Moskowitz, Martin Moskowitz, Hermann G. Place, Richard R. Rowland, John F. Caskey, William J. Clark, Wilfred J. Eadie, E. P. Kilroe, Otto E. Koegel, Irving Lesser, Irving Maas, Dan Michalove, Joseph Pincus, Seton Porter, Edmund Reek, Charles Schlaifer, Jack Schlaifer, Jack Sichelman, Murray Silverstone, Earl Sponable, Paul Terry, Daniel O. Hastings, F. S. Irby, Robert Lehman, William P. Philips, William T. Powers, Sam Shain, Andy Smith, and many others.

Started in 1928

Towell joined Fox Film Corp. in 1928 as general assistant to William Fox, then president. In 1929 he became comptroller, and in 1934 he was elected treasurer, a position he retained after consolidation of the company with 20th Century Film Corp. under the name of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. In 1943 he was elected a vice-president and continued to serve as treasurer.

Born in London, 48 years ago, Towell was taken to Canada as a boy, and settled in Winnipeg. During World War I he was a pilot in the Royal Canadian Flying Corps. In 1921, he became a chartered accountant, and joined a firm of Winnipeg accountants. The following year he came to New York. He is survived by his widow, Gladys, two sons, Gilmer, 16, and David, 7, and a daughter, Cynthia, 14.

Public Will Not Buy Video Sets to See Films, TBA is Told

(Continued from page 1)

view," Weiss stated, but he pointed out that film does not fulfill the aspect of immediacy which the public is bound to demand in television.

Weiss stressed that more attention should be given to the problem of ascertaining what types of programs the public will expect to see on the video screen. He pleaded for a more realistic approach to the subject of television. "Don't deceive yourself," he warned, "that the people are going to buy television receivers just to look at films."

Widespread exhibitor interest in television was evidenced by a large attendance at the afternoon panel session on theatre television. Paul Raibourn, economist in charge of Paramount's television interests, told the panel meeting that Paramount has been working for a number of years on reproducing television programs on films by taking programs off the air. He indicated the apparatus would be available to the theatres early in the postwar period. A television program can be taken off the air and can be projected by film onto a theatre screen within one and one-half or two minutes after it is received, Paramount experimentation indicates.

Raibourn said television belongs neither to broadcasters or to theatres, but is, rather, an instrument which enables people to see and hear what is going on. He predicted that if the broadcasters are not able to provide good television service economically, theatres will do so.

Film Integration

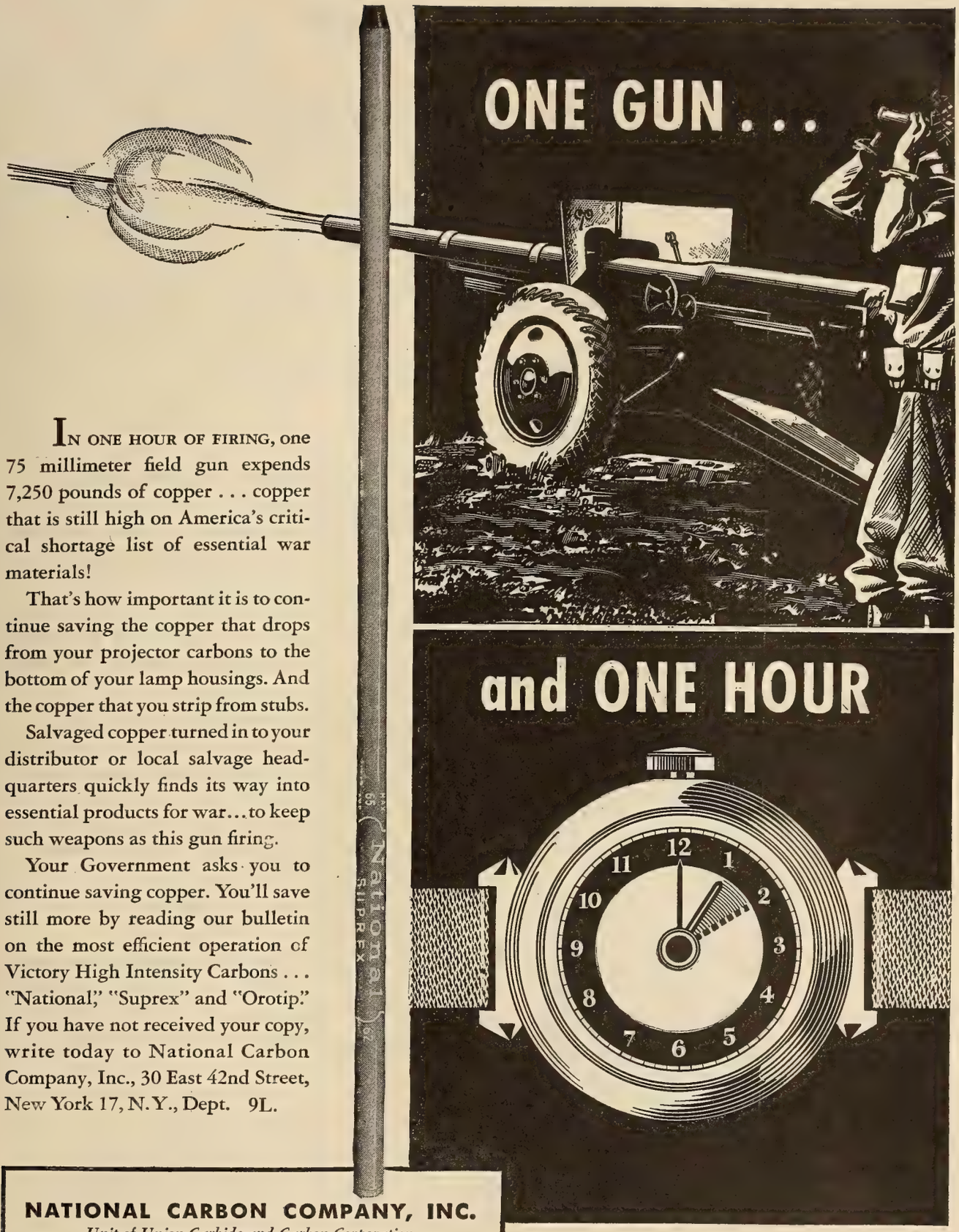
Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice-president of RKO Television Corp., described how films may be integrated with live programs in television. He pointed out how film backgrounds can be economically used in assembling television programs.

Other speakers at the theatre television panel were: Dr. B. W. Epstein and Ralph Beal of RCA Laboratories. Dr. Epstein spoke on the subject of direct projection of television images onto theatre screens, while Beal outlined RCA's past experiences and present expectations in bringing direct television to theatres. Paul J. Larson of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers was chairman of the panel.

The conference was opened by Dr. Allen B. DuMont, president of TBA. Morning speeches included those of John F. Royal, NBC vice-president in charge of television, who spoke on television programming; "Programming Tomorrow's Television Station," by Thomas H. Hutchinson, director of production for RKO Television; "New Horizons in Television," by Dr. W. R. G. Baker, General Electric vice-president.

Also addressing the morning sessions were: Robert L. Gibson, assistant to the vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity at GE, and E. W. Engstrom, director of research at RCA Laboratories at Princeton.

Sessions will continue today with a technical round table discussion and question-and-answer period conducted by Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, vice-chairman of the Radio Technical Planning Board, highlighting the morning session.



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Higher Booth Equipment Quotas in '45

(*Continued from page* 1)

some time here between Allen G. Smith, chief of the WPB theatre equipment section, and representatives of the military and other agencies for which equipment is earmarked, resulting in arrangements whereby the over-all total of production will remain at its present level, but Government claimants with no immediate need for all the equipment reserved for them will release the unwanted portion for theatres.

Equipment manufacturers are being advised of the increased theatre quotas, but are being warned that if the war programs or the labor situation require, the allocations as between companies will be shifted.

As WPB made preparations for the coming quarter's industrial activity, materials supply reports showed that the copper situation is again becoming very critical, due to ammunition programs, that electronic components are still tight, but that the steel supply has improved, except in the case of alloys, and that the bearings and small motors situation is better.

So far as booth equipment manufacturers are concerned, however, the situation is less critical than in other industries, due to the high priorities they hold for the procurement of copper. The situation with respect to that metal, however, will justify an investigation of the copper-salvage drive to secure the reclamation of all possible copper from carbons.

DeHavilland Upheld In Contract Test

Los Angeles, Dec. 11.—The Second District Court of Appeals has upheld the Superior Court ruling that Olivia DeHavilland does not owe Warners 25 weeks' services under a contract which the studio had contended was valid 25 weeks beyond its seven-year calendar period due to time out for suspensions, and other absences. The decision was based on the judicial view that protraction would violate the California labor code, adding that "rights created in the public interest may not be contravened by private agreement."

It is believed Warners will appeal the State Supreme Court decision. The case is considered a precedent important with respect to all studio employment contracts.

"Life" Likes 'St. Louis'

In selecting "Meet Me in St. Louis" as its current "movie of the week," *Life* also gives the cover of the Dec. 11 issue to the star, Judy Garland, while four inside pages carry information on the picture.

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Supreme Court Upholds U.S. in Crescent Appeal

(*Continued from page* 1)

their claim that the Government's first appeal was premature to be well founded. It refused, however, to dismiss the Government's second appeal, received at the same time as the first.

The court's opinion, delivered by Associate Justice Douglas, represented the views of five members, Associate Justices Frankfurter, Murphy and Jackson taking no part in the consideration of the case and Associate Justice Roberts dissenting, but without making his views known.

Sherman Act Applies

Justice Douglas, early in his opinion, disposed of all doubts as to the applicability of the Sherman Act to the exhibition business, pointing out that contracts made by theatres with film salesmen are subject to approval by the distributors' home offices and that the films are shipped to the various exchanges and by them sent from one exhibitor to another. "The findings are wholly adequate to establish that the business of the exhibitors involves a regular interchange of films in interstate commerce," he commented.

The opinion dealt at length with the practices which the Government charged the defendants resorted to for the purpose of eliminating competition.

"There was ample evidence that the combination used its buying power for the purpose either of restricting the ability of its competitors to license films or of eliminating competition by acquiring the competitor's property or otherwise," Justice Roberts said, citing the companies' insistence that a distributor give them monopoly rights in towns where they they had competition or be refused business in the closed towns where they had no competition, and the franchise contracts which they made, including a repeat-run clause which prevented the sales of a second run to opposition theatres.

'Normal Competition'

"We are now told, however, that the independents were eliminated by the normal processes of competition; that their theatres were less attractive; that their service was inferior; that they were not as efficient businessmen as the defendants," he continued. "We may assume that if a single exhibitor launched such a plan of economic warfare he would not run afoul of the Sherman Act. But the vice of this undertaking was the combination of several exhibitors in a plan of concerted action. They had unity of purpose and unity of action. They pooled their buying power for a common end. It will not do to analogize this to a case where purchasing power is pooled so that the buyers may obtain more favorable terms. The plan here was to crush competition and to build a circuit for the exhibitors."

The opinion dismissed the companies' contention that the lower court's findings were mainly taken verbatim from the Government's brief, although Justice Douglas criticized them as leaving "much to be desired in light of the function of the trial court."

"But they are none the less the findings of the District court," he said, "and they must stand or fall depending on whether they are supported by evidence. We think they are."

Granting the Government's petition for broadening of the decree to require affirmative showing that proposed acquisitions will not be contrary to the requirements of the decree, Justice Douglas pointed out that the court normally is reluctant to direct a recasting of a decree except on a showing of abuse of discretion, but said that this was a case where it should act lest the public interest not be adequately protected.

"The generality of this provision of the decree bids fair to call for a retrial of a Sherman Act case any time a citation for contempt is issued," he explained. "The crucial facts in each case would be subtle ones as is usually true where purpose and motive are at issue. This type of provision is often the only practical remedy against continuaiton of illegal trade practices. But we are dealing here with a situation which permits of a more select treatment. The growth of this combine has been the result of predatory practices condemned by the Sherman Act. The object of the conspiracy was the destruction or absorption of competitors. It was successful in that endeavor. The pattern of past conduct is not easily forsaken. Where the proclivity for unlawful activity has been as manifest as here, the decree should operate as an effective deterrent to a repetition of the unlawful conduct and yet not stand as a barrier to healthy growth on the competitive basis. The acquisition of a competing theatre terminates at once its competition. Punishment for contempt does not restore the competition which has been eliminated, and where businesses have been merged or purchased and closed out it is commonly impossible to turn back the clock. . . .

'Revise Decree'

"The considerations impel us to conclude that the decree should be revised so as to prohibit future acquisitions of a financial interest in additional theatres outside of Nashville, except after an affirmative showing that such acquisition will not unreasonably restrain competition."

Dealing with the companies' charges that the decree was unduly severe, Justice Douglas dismissed the contention that the injunction against the making of franchises or film contracts protecting them against competition would "aggrandize" the distributors, commenting that these were the chief weapons used by the combination in its unlawful warfare and "the fact that those instruments could be lawfully used does not mean that the defendants may leave the court unfettered.

"Civil suits under the Sherman Act," he said, "would indeed be idle gestures if the injunction did not run against the continuance or resumption of the unlawful practice. And it is hard to see how the decree could be made less general and more specific."

Justice Douglas expressed little sympathy for the companies' contention that the divestiture provisions of the decree are inequitable and harsh, income tax-wise, that they exceed any reasonable requirement for the prevention of future violations and that they are therefore punitive.

"The court has quite consistently recognized in this type of Sherman Act case that the Government should not be confined to an injunction against further violations," he said. "Dissolution of the combination will be ordered where the creation of the combination is itself the violation. Those who violate the Act may not reap the benefits of their violations and avoid an undoing of their unlawful project on the plea of hardship or inconvenience.

'Fruits of Conspiracy'

"That principle is adequate here to justify divestiture of all interest in some of the affiliates since that acquisition was part of the fruits of the conspiracy. But the relief need not, and under these facts, should not be so restricted. The fact that the companies were affiliated induced joint action and agreement. Common control was one of the instruments in bringing about unity of purpose and unity of action and in making the conspiracy effective. If the affiliation continues there will be tempting opportunity for these exhibitors to continue to act in combination against the independents, The proclivity in the past to use that affiliation for an unlawful end warrants effective assurance that no such opportunity will be available in the future. Hence we do not think the District court abused its discretion in failing to limit the relief to an injunction against future violations. There is no reason why the protection of the public interest should depend solely on that somewhat cumbersome procedure when another effective one is available. "The fact that minority stockholders of the affiliated companies are not parties to the suit is no legal barrier to a separation of the companies. No legal right of one stockholder is normally affected if another stockholder is required to sell his stock. And no exception to that rule has been shown to exist here."

Dudley Gets 'Daily Double' on Winners

Radio Announcer Bernard Dudley rode a "daily double" with *Motion Picture Daily-Fame* radio poll winners last Sunday. Dudley was the announcer on the CBS broadcast of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra which featured an announcement that the orchestra had been voted "Best Symphonic Orchestra." He was also the announcer on Mutual Broadcasting's "Dick Brown Program," another poll winner.

NTS Buys $250,000 In Bonds for Sixth

National Theatre Supply, division of National-Simplex-Bludworth, Inc., has purchased $250,000 worth of war bonds to be credited to the industry for the Sixth War Loan, Harry Brandt, national industry chairman for the drive, reported here yesterday.

Today to Be Lambs' Day in Times Square

Today will be Lamb's Day at the industry's "Statue of Liberty" in Times Square, and several of that club's members are to appear on behalf of the Sixth War Loan, including James J. Walker, former mayor of New York City.

Harry Arthur's Suit Again Is Postponed

St. Louis, Dec. 10.—Harry Arthur's suit seeking an injunction against the Department of Justice's consent decree and damages against film companies has again been postponed in Federal District Court here. The defendants were granted until Jan. 16 in which to file their answer to the suit.

A hearing on the Rosecan arbitration case is set for Jan. 15, but will probably be postponed beyond that date. Several companies named in the clearance complaint of Adolph Rosecan, operator of the Princess Theatre, seek to avoid submitting to arbitration.

Sudekum May Not Seek Re-Hearing

(*Continued from page* 1)

prompted the trouble and expense to which the Crescent Amusement Co. has gone in defending itself against the Governments' prosecution.

The greater part of Sudekum's business is in the city and in the suburbs of Nashville, and this was excluded from the suit in the very beginning. Sudekum has already revealed plans for the postwar construction of new theatres in Nashville and the suburbs that will probably more than offset the value of the interests (not exceeding 50 per cent in any of the affiliated circuits) that the courts are demanding him to dispose of.

REEVES
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Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

Strike Suit This Week

(Continued from page 1)

St. Louis Motion Picture Exhibitors Committee, declared today: "The future of the entire industry rests in the outcome of the cases in court. If the unions find they can get away with this, their members can shut down the entire industry any time there is a grievance." Ansell charged that the unions cannot supply the six men required to unionize the three county theatres which have caused the dispute without doubling up on day and night shifts. The three theatres are among the 30 still remaining open.

Liberman in his statement said: "The unions have entered into a conspiracy to restrain interstate commerce in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, consisting of the following steps: The unlawful demand made on the film companies to refuse to furnish films to three non-union theatres; the walkout of the film handlers union on the refusal of the companies to comply with its demands, and the refusal of the projectionists to run films in a union theatre." He pointed out that the closing of the theatres does not arise from a dispute between the unions and the theatres. The rights and immunities granted labor unions in cases involving disputes are therefore inapplicable.

Felix Snow, international vice-president of the motion picture union, is continuing his investigation, and so far as can be learned has not yet submitted his report.

Arthur Makes Charge

Harry C. Arthur, Jr., general manager of Fanchon and Marco, has challenged the union's denial of responsibility for the falling off in war bond sales as a result of the strike. "Between 400,000 and 500,000 persons normally attend theatres each week in St. Louis," he pointed out. "They see the messages of the Government and the War Activities Committee. Many of them buy bonds in the theatre lobbies."

He also pointed out that stagehands who have been laid off as result of the strike are demanding two weeks pay in accordance with their contract, although the contract is identical with the operators pact, which requires two weeks notice before calling a strike. The unions, he added, are thus insisting that the contracts work both ways to their advantage.

Eleven employes of PRC walked out over the weekend, bringing to 244 the number of employes on strike. Only exchanges now unaffected by the strike are Columbia, United Artists and Monogram.

No reply has been received to the telegram sent to the Senate war investigating committee by a group of local exhibitors Friday, urging the Government to solve the manpower problem by ceasing its "encouragement and support of organized and profitable idleness."

FILM DUBBING
SCRIPT ADAPTATION
GHOST VOICE
SPANISH-PORTUGESE-FRENCH
Spanish Sound Studios
41 E. 42 St. N. Y. 17 MU 2-5358

Reviews

"She's A Sweetheart"

(*Columbia*)

Hollywood, Dec. 11

TED RICHMOND'S production has Jane Darwell, Jane Frazee and Larry Parks; it has a timely locale: a canteen for servicemen; it has several songs offered in pleasing style by Miss Frazee.

Muriel Bolton's screenplay is a patchwork of slender plots, most of them initiated and all of them resolved by Miss Darwell in the character of 'Mom,' who runs the canteen. There is too much talk in the tenuous tale and some of Miss Darwell's speeches succeed in making her sound pretty insufferable. She emerges as a combination of Pollyanna and Meddlesome Mattie. The young people in the cast fare better. Larry Parks brings conviction to his role, and Jimmy Lloyd is amusing as his pal. Nina Foch, Ross Hunter and Loren Tindall also contribute pleasing performances.

Del Lord's direction seems slow-paced at times, possibly due to the character of the material and the over-abundance of dialogue.

Running time, 69 minutes. "G."* Release date, Dec. 7.

THALIA BELL

"Song of the Range"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Dec. 11

THERE is an abundance of cowboy songs in the latest of the "Jimmy Wakely" series of Westerns. These, interwoven with an ingenious plot, provide ample entertainment for Western fans.

A clever screenplay, by Betty Burbridge, is the background for the talents of Wakely, Dennis More, Lee (Lasses) White and Cay Forester. The latter is a Government agent, trying to track down a gang of crooks who are transporting gold bullion across the state line. When her co-worker is killed, Dennis Moore impersonates him and, assisted by his cowboy pals, rounds up the crooks.

Phillip N. Krasne produced and Wallace Fox directed the feature, which is well above average for its class.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date, Dec. 16.

T. B.

*"G" denotes general classification.

Coast Interested In UNRRA Relief

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 11. — Producers have evidence of considerable interest in furthering the international aims of UNRRA—United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Association—and will consider story material aiding those twin objectives, according to William Wells, formerly with the information division of OPA and now head of the film division of UNRRA. Wells is back in Washington after several weeks of conferences here.

Prior to his departure, he stated potential plans provide for shorts directly dealing with the objectives, one perhaps, for distribution by way of the industry's WAC and others through regular distribution as well as on non-theatrical 16mm. prints. Where story content sufficiently interests producers, Wells is hopeful something will be attempted in feature entertainment form.

Cpl. Harry McDonald Wounded in Pacific

Corp. Harry McDonald of the Army Air Corps, son of Charles McDonald, RKO home office theatre official, has returned to duty in the South Pacific after having been wounded aboard a transport which was bombed while en route to Leyte Island in the Philippines six weeks ago, according to word received here yesterday. Corp. McDonald was blown from the ship into the sea in the attack on the transport.

Services Tomorrow For Laird Cregar

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 11.—Private funeral services will be held here Wednesday at Forest Lawn for Laird Cregar, 28, player, who died Saturday of a heart attack.

Among pictures in which he had appeared were "Hudson's Bay," "Blood and Sand," "Charlie's Aunt," "This Gun for Hire," "Heaven Can Wait," "Hello, Frisco, Hello," "I Wake Up Screaming," "Ten Gentlemen from West Point," "Rings on Her Fingers," "The Lodger," and, recently, "Hangover Square."

Surviving are his mother, four brothers and an aunt.

Local 306 to Boycott Republic Product

(Continued from page 1)

public pictures, a spokesman for Local 306 declared here yesterday.

The union's action came after a general membership meeting unanimously empowered Herman Gelber, Local 306 president, to take such steps as might be necessary to deal with the Republic projectionists' situation. The union claims that Republic is the only company that has failed to enter into a contract with 306 for home office projectionists.

No comment was forthcoming from Republic.

Meschter Talks to SMPE

Dr. E. Meschter, research physicist of the photo products department of DuPont, at Parlin, N. J., will be the speaker at the Hotel Pennsylvania tomorrow evening on aspects of intermodulation tests.

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My sincere Appreciation

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If you think you know how
far some women will go
to attain their ends,
you don't need to see it.

If you are not sure you know,
you are going to be shocked.

But maybe you need
a shock.

That's the kind of a picture "GUEST IN THE HOUSE" *is*

Presented by
HUNT STROMBERG
starring
ANNE BAXTER *with* RALPH BELLAMY
ALINE MacMAHON • RUTH WARRICK
SCOTT McKAY • MARIE McDONALD
Jerome Cowan • Percy Kilbride • Margaret Hamilton • Connie Laird
From the Stage Play by Hagar Wilde and Dale Eunson • Screen Play by Ketti Frings
Director of Photography, Lee Garmes, A.S.C. • Directed by JOHN BRAHM
Released thru United Artists

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 56. NO. 113 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1944 | TEN CENTS

5% BRITISH QUOTA INCREASE BY 1947

British Seek Better Break In U.S.: Korda

Seek 30 Millions Yearly From Rentals Here

"The American film industry must face the fact that within five years, British films will have at least 50 per cent of the playing time of British screens, rather than the 20 per cent of pre-war days, and British films must receive at least 10 per cent of playing time on American screens," Sir Alexander Korda stated here yesterday.

"The English film industry cannot afford any longer to give the American industry $80,000,000 yearly in revenue and receive practically nothing in return. It must receive $30,000,000 annually for its pictures

(*Continued on page* 10)

Ask Video, Film Unity

Appeals for a close, increasingly beneficial relationship between the film industry and television were voiced at the second and final day's session of the first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association at the Hotel Commodore here yesterday.

"Television and the motion picture industry can increase each others' prosperity in the postwar and the sooner each industry realizes this the better," was the general tenor of remarks in answer to a question on the possible effect of television on the film

(*Continued on page* 6)

OWI to Halt All Film Making by June 30

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The Office of War Information will be entirely out of film production by next June 30, regardless of the European war situation, and thereafter will either secure its films from the industry or have them made by contract, it was learned here today.

There will, however, be no cut in the OWI's film program and it is believed the desired volume and type of material will be available at a much

(*Continued on page* 3)

Theatres Continue Sixth to Dec. 31

Motion picture theatres will continue Sixth War Loan promotions to Dec. 31, 15 days beyond the official campaign closing date of Dec. 16, War Activities Headquarters disclosed yesterday.

Theatres will try to stimulate the sale of 'E' bonds, which have not reached their quota, Malcolm Kingsberg, New York area chairman, said here.

Zanuck Sees German Film Reeducation a United Nations Job

Washington, Dec. 12.—Darryl F. Zanuck of 20th Century-Fox is expected to come to Washington Thursday, presumably to discuss with Francis C. DeWolf and other State Department officials Zanuck's proposal for peace-table agreements assuring a free flow of American films throughout the world. Zanuck's ideas are in line with those of State Department officials who have made plans for international discussions to develop treaties to assure that result, first steps toward which have been taken in discussions on the elimination of double taxation.

Whatever program is developed to reeducate the German people to peace through films cannot be nationalistic in character but must be a joint undertaking of the United Nations, in the opinion of Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th Century-Fox vice-president.

In an interview here yesterday—

(*Continued on page* 10)

U. K. Studios Are Released

LONDON, Dec. 12.—It was authoritatively learned here today that the following sound stages are now in the process of being derequisitioned by the government: the one remaining at Denham, three at Pinewood, the entire Merton Park studio, and two at Elstree. Army and Royal Air Force film units are still producing at Pinewood and, therefore, it is unlikely, for security reasons, that access will be allowed to its cutting rooms even when the three stages there are derequisitioned. Pressure is, however,

(*Continued on page* 8)

Pioneers to Honor Zanuck, 4 Others

Honor scrolls will be awarded to Darryl F. Zanuck, John Harris, Robert O'Donnell, Walter Vincent and Francis Doublier, at the Picture Pioneers eighth dinner conference, tonight at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. More than 300 members are expected to attend, with Jack Cohn, house manager, presiding, and Samuel Rinzler, master of ceremonies.

An all-time high of 64 candidates will be inducted, with Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora administering the organizational oath. Sam and George Dembow, co-chairmen of the dinner committee, will be in charge.

BOT Proposals Now Up to Parliament; April Effective Date

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Dec. 12.—A five per cent increase in feature quotas for both distributors and exhibitors in England by 1947 was recommended here today by the British Board of Trade, together with a ten percent jump in short subject quotas by the end of the same period.

Resolutions placing the new quotas in effect require passage by both houses of Parliament before the end of this year, to take effect in April of next year, but passage is considered assured.

The distributors' feature quota, now 20 per cent, will remain the same in

(*Continued on page* 8)

Houses Open In St. Louis

Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, indicated here yesterday that the IATSE will continue its efforts to set union projectionists in the St. Louis theatres which are now employing non-union projectionists. Walsh directed the IATSE exchange workers and projectionists in

(*Continued on page* 3)

Differ on Crescent Case as Precedent

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The Government today saw itself as in a much stronger position to enforce its demands against distributors and exhibitors as a result of yesterday's Supreme Court decision in the Crescent Amusement Co. case, which officials of the Department of Justice said will have

(*Continued on page* 6)

"The Keys of the Kingdom"

[*20th Century-Fox*]

HOLLYWOOD'S list of distinguished motion pictures has been enlarged of late by a goodly number of outstanding films. Now room must be made at the very top of the list for yet another newcomer—"The Keys of the Kingdom." For this production, based on A. J. Cronin's best-selling novel of several years ago, is a magnificent creation, one that is rich in story fundamentals and even richer in the motion picture's most pleasing accomplishments, such as distinguished acting, effective direction, an intelligent viewpoint and an atmosphere of unerring good taste throughout the telling of a story whose theme, religion, is closest to the sensitivities and sensibilities of millions of individuals.

No exhibitor who has experienced or observed the audience receptions which have been accorded such current productions as "The Song

(*Continued on page* 8)

Reviewed Today

In addition to the review of "The Keys of the Kingdom," appearing in adjoining columns, "Music for Millions" is reviewed on page 9; "They Shall Have Faith," page 11.

Personal Mention

JOHN LEROY JOHNSTON, advertising and publicity director for International Pictures, has returned to Hollywood following a New York visit.

•

MRS. LILLIAN FRIEDMAN, wife of CHESTER FRIEDMAN, editor of the Managers' Round Table section of *Motion Picture Herald,* is recovering from an operation at X-Ray Hospital here.

•

CHARLES E. (CHICK) LEWIS is at Medical Center here for an eye operation and is not expected back at his office until after Jan. 1.

•

LOU COLATUANOS, manager of Warners' Stanton, Philadelphia, and MRS. COLATUANOS, recently became the parents of a son, LOUIS, JR.

•

LARRY R. LEVY, manager of Loew's in Reading, Pa., and MRS. LEVY are the parents of a daughter born recently at Reading Hospital.

•

ANN BUBECK, head bookkeeper at the Paramount exchange, Philadelphia, has resigned to marry WALTER VAN FANT.

•

DAVID LEWIS, producer, has left here for Hollywood to begin work on a new film.

•

N. PETER RATHVON will leave Hollywood by train for New York on Friday; NED E. DEPINET, by plane.

DeBra to Address Fenard Banquet

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—A preview of the M-G-M John Nesbitt Passing Parade, "A Lady Fights Back," story of the *S.S. Normandie,* will highlight a dinner and reception at the United Nations Club tonight, honoring Admiral Raymond Fenard, chief of the French Naval Mission in the U. S.

Arthur H. DeBra, director of research for the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, will speak on "Ships and Films Across the Sea," in connection with the showing, citing the extended use of films in the post-war.

Macon Is Preparing For 'Pilot' Premiere

MACON, Ga., Dec. 12.—This city will be turned into a facsimile of Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street on Feb. 1, for the premiere of Col. Robert L. Scott's "God Is My Co-Pilot," Warner officials here disclose.

Mayor Charles Bowden stated that a parade, lights "and all the trimmings" are being arranged and eight or 10 Hollywood personalities will attend, including Dennis Morgan, Alexis Smith and Andrea King.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Dec. 12

STICKING things away in drawers can be tough on the furniture, but it can be productive, also. Out of a drawer comes part of a press release, issued Sept. 20 under the imprimatur of Arch Reeve, clearing house here for the Public Information Committee of the Motion Picture Industry, and thereafter distinguished by a thundering silence. A quote:

"In preparation for the setting up of a uniform interpretation on illusion-destroying publicity, Perry Lieber and Arch Reeve were appointed by chairman Harry Brand as a committee to study and list types of stills which would be harmful to the industry."

In the background was that layout which appeared in *Life* several months ago, spilling trade secrets which are none of the public's business. There was a fuss about it here. It even went beyond the average 20-minute sensations which are indigenous to Hollywood. It was laid to misunderstandings, misinterpretations, or what you will. Out of it, however, did develop the committee of study alluded to above.

■

By mandate, it is quite correct that the committee was commissioned to gander stills, which could provide an out. But illusion-destroying publicity can destroy by the illusion set up in the public's mind through words and description on a newspaper page, too. It's a different kind of shattering and it may not do as complete a job, but a job it can do.

This brings today's communique to a piece which appeared in the Sunday edition of the Los Angeles *Times.* Written by Arthur Miller, that paper's art editor, it bore the caption, "'Special Effects' Does Movie Tricks." Thereafter it opened hidden doors, through courtesy of an interview no doubt conveniently arranged with Fred Sersen, head of special effects at 20th Century-Fox.

■

If it's two stars presumably kissing on a mountain, forget it. The mountain came to Beverly Hills. If it's Fred MacMurray and Joan Leslie in a victoria rushing along a road in 19th Century America, it's the background that did the dashing and made to do so by the studio technicians for a bit of fantasy in "Where Do We Go from Here?" Simple, when you know how.

Why the public has to be told how is something else. The bid here, of course, was for advance publicity on a forthcoming attraction. This fools nobody and was never designed to do so, moreover. Yet the constant reaching for newspaper or national magazine breaks with a blithe overriding of immediate or long-distance consequences, clearly, is a practice which ought to be discouraged by moving it out of the nebulous area of committees to study into the definitive area of committees to act.

The public buys its entertainment and whatever tricks may play a part in creating that entertainment. Its illusions should not be invaded. Neither should the industry's.

Does Macy's tell Gimbel's?

■ ■

"Hollywood Canteen" and the view on it is on the record. A tremendous attraction beyond all question. Yet is goes further. As the film entertains, it does a highly important job for Hollywood and, thus, for the industry.

It shows the citizens of the production colony for the warm and sympathetic humans the majority of them are. Accurately, it reveals them to be conscious of the war and alive to their opportunity to spread cheer among limitless thousands of service men through the noteworthy institution which is the Hollywood Canteen.

All of this should be reflected in a rising curve of public goodwill and a far greater realization that Hollywood has real people, interspersed perhaps with some of the other kind.

Side note: Warner is understood to have paid the Canteen $250,000 for the story rights and use of the title and to have agreed upon turning over 40 per cent of the proceeds. The Canteen expects its end to total $2,000,000, which will be set aside as a special fund for postwar rehabilitation among ex-service men.

■ ■

Ulcers no longer create ripples. Heart attacks are becoming so common everyone regrets for the other fellow and thinks no more of it.

Latest of Hollywod's encounters with matters corporeal is entirely new. It's a sacroiliac condition originally confined to one studio and now spreading to others. It develops through persistent and fast bows over attractions which must be big because $2,000,000 and more have been spent in the making.

WE Is Resuming in Liberated Areas

Advices from Paris received here at Western Electric, indicate that little damage was done to the company's Paris installations and that normal operations may soon be resumed.

It may now be revealed that of the ten French employees of the Paris office who became prisoners of war at the time of the French capitulation in 1940, two have since been released for ill health and one, who escaped, was sent to W. E.'s office in Tunisia to put him at a safe distance from the Germans. Western Electric has also learned that the staff of the Paris office now is serving the U. S. Army's Psychological Warfare Branch in that area. Formerly known as the Societe de Materiel Acoustique, Inc., the Algiers branch is already operating under the company's new name, Western Electric Co. (France), which will be adopted by the Paris and Brussels offices.

Western Electric Co. of Italy, which was being administered by a Sequestrator appointed by the Fascist government following Italy's declaration of war on the United States, is now functioning almost normally again under supervision of the property comptroller of AMG, according to word from D. Dona dalle Rose, manager of the company's Rome office.

Western Electric here is working with the motion picture bureau of the OWI Overseas Branch, supplying theatre materials through that organization to liberated areas.

Raises for Exchange Workers, Operators

Exchange workers in Cleveland, and projectionists in six Massachusetts towns, have had wage increases approved.

Some 85 members of the film exchange office workers Local No. B-5, will receive $25,000 in back pay under a 10 per cent pay increase made retroactive to Dec. 1, 1942. John C. Wein is president of the local.

The War Labor Board has also approved a three-dollar weekly raise for 75 projectionists in 21 theatres in Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield, Palmer, Chicopee and Chicopee Falls, all in Massachusetts, in a new three-year agreement. In addition to the increase, provision was also made for a week's vacation with pay.

WE to Pay Dividend

Western Electric directors here yesterday voted a dividend of 50 cents per share on common stock, payable Dec. 29 to stockholders of record on Dec. 22.

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Freedom House Will Sponsor 'World' Bow

World premiere of "Tomorrow the World" will be sponsored by Freedom House on Thursday evening, Dec. 21, at the Globe, here, opening the drive for funds for establishment of a Wendell Willkie Memorial, George Field, executive secretary, announced yesterday through United Artists.

Members of the memorial committee include: Spyros Skouras, Harry Scherman, Mrs. Ward Cheney, Herbert Bayard Swope, Herbert Agar, David Dubinsky, Marshall Field, Walter White and Sumner Welles, honorary chairman. Charles E. Hughes, Jr., is president of the fund drive.

Frederic March, Betty Field and "Skippy" Homeier, stars of the film, will be presented at the opening by Elsa Maxwell, who is in charge of the entertainment committee for the premiere.

Combination trade showings and press previews of "Tomorrow the World" will be held in 19 cities between Dec. 18 and 22, according to Bernard Kreisler, vice-president and general manager of Lester Cowan Prod., including New Orleans, Atlanta, Charlotte, Boston, Denver, Salt Lake City, Seattle, Detroit, Dallas, New Haven, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Omaha, Des Moines, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Buffalo and Baltimore.

Baily to Coast to Continue War Work

Tom W. Baily, film industry consultant to the Treasury Department for the Sixth War Loan Committee, returned to New York yesterday from Washington, where he had headquarters for the past two months with the War Finance Division. Baily handled arrangements for Hollywood star appearances, and assisted on other bond matters pertaining to the industry.

He will return to Hollywood Saturday to resume his duties as executive director of the California Theatre Council and to be coordinator of the Hollywood Division of the War Activities Committee. John C. Flinn, present Hollywood coordinator and executive secretary of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, arrived in New York yesterday from Washington.

'Creek' Set for 300 Xmas Dates: Reagan

"Frenchman's Creek" will achieve the largest simultaneous booking for a Paramount film in months, Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, reported yesterday, in announcing that some 300 Christmas-New Year's week runs have already been set.

Key city engagements are being given an extensive promotion campaign by R. M. Gillham's advertising and publicity department, the company said.

Gilbert Bevan Wounded

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 12.—S/Sgt. Gilbert J. Bevan, formerly of the Paramount Theatre here and nephew of Harry Smith, executive of Western Massachusetts Theatres, was seriously wounded in action near Metz on Nov. 9, according to word received here.

OWI Planning to Stop All Film Making by June 30

(Continued from page 1)

lower cost than is involved in direct production.

Field staffs handling distribution of pictures will be continued, but the staff of the overseas film bureau in this country will be restricted to a group of six in New York and another group of about 15 in Hollywood to work with the industry.

The first steps toward "streamlining" the overseas bureau for the changed conditions which are expected to exist when the emphasis of war is confined to the Pacific have already been taken with the release of some 300 persons in the agency as a whole, 34 of them in the film bureau. The film bureau had a total of 137 persons and all of the eliminations have been in the production branch.

Edward W. Barrett, director of overseas operations, who has been overseas getting a picture of the needs of the service, is expected back the end of this week, and final plans for cutting the branch down after the war in Europe ends will then be developed.

The OWI already is beginning to shift its emphasis from Europe to the Far East theatre, but will not be able to streamline all activities immediately because of the overlap of military operations in the two areas.

When operations shift to the Pacific, it is expected that motion pictures will be fully as important as they have been in the European campaigns, because of the high degree of illiteracy existing among Asiatic peoples, which will make pictures a most important media. The OWI radio and publication divisions are expected to find a very restricted field for their operations.

While the plans of the film bureau call for actual elimination in the next few months of almost the total machinery of OWI for making pictures, officials are confident that the cooperation of the industry and the pictures made under contract will afford them an ample supply of material. They emphasized that this does not mean they do not consider the OWI film section valuable, since as a matter of fact, it has proven one of the most effective media for the OWI program, but is aimed merely at operating on the smaller scale possible with the narrower field in an economical manner.

'Wave' Promotions on 5 Network Shows

Paramount's "Here Come the Waves" will be given an extensive radio promotion, R. M. Gillham, advertising-publicity director, announced yesterday, on five network shows, two of which will originate from Hunter College, WAVE indoctrination center, plus one from San Diego Naval base.

Campaign will be launched Dec. 16 on "Spotlight Bands," from Hunter College, followed by "Vox Pop," Dec. 18, also from Hunter; then on the "Truth or Consequences" show, on Dec. 23. From the Coast, the Bob Hope show, on Dec. 19, with Bing Crosby as guest star, will also aid, and lastly on Dec. 21, the regular Crosby broadcast will promote the film.

8 Advance Previews For WB's 'To Have'

Eight midnight previews, all from a week to more than a month in advance of the regular opening, have been set by Warner Bros. on "To Have and Have Not," now in the 10th week of a pre-release run at the Hollywood Theatre, New York.

First out-of-town previews take place Dec. 16 at the Strand, Albany, and the Troy, Troy. The other advances are scheduled for Dec. 31 at the Ohio, Canton; Warner, Memphis; Virginian, Charleston; Capitol, Steubenville, and Capitol, Little Rock.

WB's Maier in Toronto

TORONTO, Dec. 12.—H. R. Maier of Warners' home office real estate department has been here checking plans for the new Warner exchange to be erected at Carlton and Church Streets, near the site of the new Columbia building. Both are now in the Hermant Building but must move under revised government building regulations.

Certify Managers, RKO Dispute to WLB

The contract dispute between RKO and Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistant managers in 40 RKO Metropolitan New York and Westchester theatres, has been certified to the War Labor Board. No date has yet been set for a hearing.

Canada Pioneers Re-elect Hague

TORONTO, Dec. 12.—Clair Hague, Canadian representative of Universal, has been re-elected president, for the third time, of Canadian Picture Pioneers. L. M. Devaney, RKO Canadian general manager, was named vice-president, succeeding S. B. Taube. Miss Ray Lewis was re-elected secretary, and J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players-Canadian, was re-named director of public relations.

New directors are: S. B. Taube, Archie Laurie, Jack Arthur, Morris Stein, Ben Geldsaler, Ben Cronk, Clair Appel, Ernie Moule, Hague, Devaney and Miss Lewis.

James Cowan in N. Y.

James Cowan, head of Editorial Services, Ltd., Canadian representative of Hollywood Pictures Corp. and Television Motion Pictures, is here for semi-annual conferences with Jack Goldberg, president of the latter two companies. They will discuss Canadian releases for 1945.

Smalley Unit Chartered

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 12.—Incorporation papers have been filed here by Smalley Norwich Theatre Corp., Cooperstown, headquarters of the circuit operated by W. C. Smalley. Directors are Smalley, Hazel N. Smith and Helen L. Johnson.

St. Louis Theatres Open After Strike; Repercussion Seen

(Continued from page 1)

St. Louis to return to their jobs yesterday after their strike had tied up almost 80 theatres in the St. Louis territory in the past 11 days. Loew's State and Orpheum reopened yesterday, the Ambassador will reopen today, the Missouri tomorrow and the St. Louis Friday.

Walsh's action was taken after he had received a preliminary report from Felix Snow, IATSE international vice-president, of Kansas City, whom he had assigned to investigate the situation. No further action will be taken by the IATSE until a complete report on the situation is received from Snow. The strike is settled as far as the IATSE is concerned, Walsh indicated.

Contracts Cited

In St. Louis, Snow said he had recommended ordering the strikers back to work because the union's contracts with distributors do not provide for non-delivery to "unfair" exhibitors. The present contracts, he explained, "fail to warrant strike or boycott action." He said the unions will continue their efforts to compel the Osage, Ozark and Kirkwood theatres to replace their single non-union operators with two union operators. He indicated future negotiations with distributors will ask for agreement not to supply "unfair" theatres with film. The strike started over the three theatres' employment of single, non-union operators, but did not close any of them.

Ben Liberman, attorney for exhibitors, estimated the box office loss from the theatre closings in St. Louis at "well over $100,000." At a meeting of St. Louis exhibitors yesterday it was decided to press their demand upon the War Manpower Commission regarding the waste of manpower through the use of two operators in a booth at a time of serious manpower shortage. The exhibitors also decided to assemble data on losses and damages and will meet again to determine whether legal action shall be taken against the unions.

Yates Confident on Postwar Prospects

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—H. J. Yates, president of Consolidated Film Industries, expressed confidence here today that the post-war holds bright prospects for motion pictures and said: "It is our intention to have Republic ready for an unparalleled demand. I feel confident the demand will be world-wide with the coming of peace."

Yates said Republic is geared for unprecedented production in 1945, with plans calling for the largest budget in the company's history. Republic's building expansion program awaits the War Production Board's release of necessary building materials, he added. Yates will leave for New York by train on Friday.

Changes Corporate Name

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 12.—Columbia Theatre Enterprises, Inc., New York, has changed its name to Centro Theatre Enterprises, Inc. Benet Polikoff, New York, was the attorney

NATIONAL VELVET
"HATS IN
ROARED THE TRAD
"One of the top box-office clicks of the year." —VARIETY
"The picture is its own assurance of maximum yield in any situation against any competition." —M. P. HERALD
"Truly superb. It will have audiences on their feet cheering." —BOXOFFICE
"One of the finest pictures ever to come to the screen. It will be 'velvet' for you." —SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW
M-G-M's Great Technicolor Heart Drama
"NATIONAL VELVET"
A CLARENCE BROWN PRODUCTION
Based on the Novel "National Velvet" by Enid Bagnold
Starring
MICKEY ROONEY
with
DONALD CRISP
ELIZABETH TAYLOR
ANNE REVERE • ANGELA LANSBURY
JACKIE JENKINS • ARTHUR TREACHER
Directed by CLARENCE BROWN
Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN
SCREEN PLAY BY THEODORE REEVES AND HELEN DEUTSCH
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

O N A L

V E T

THE AIR"

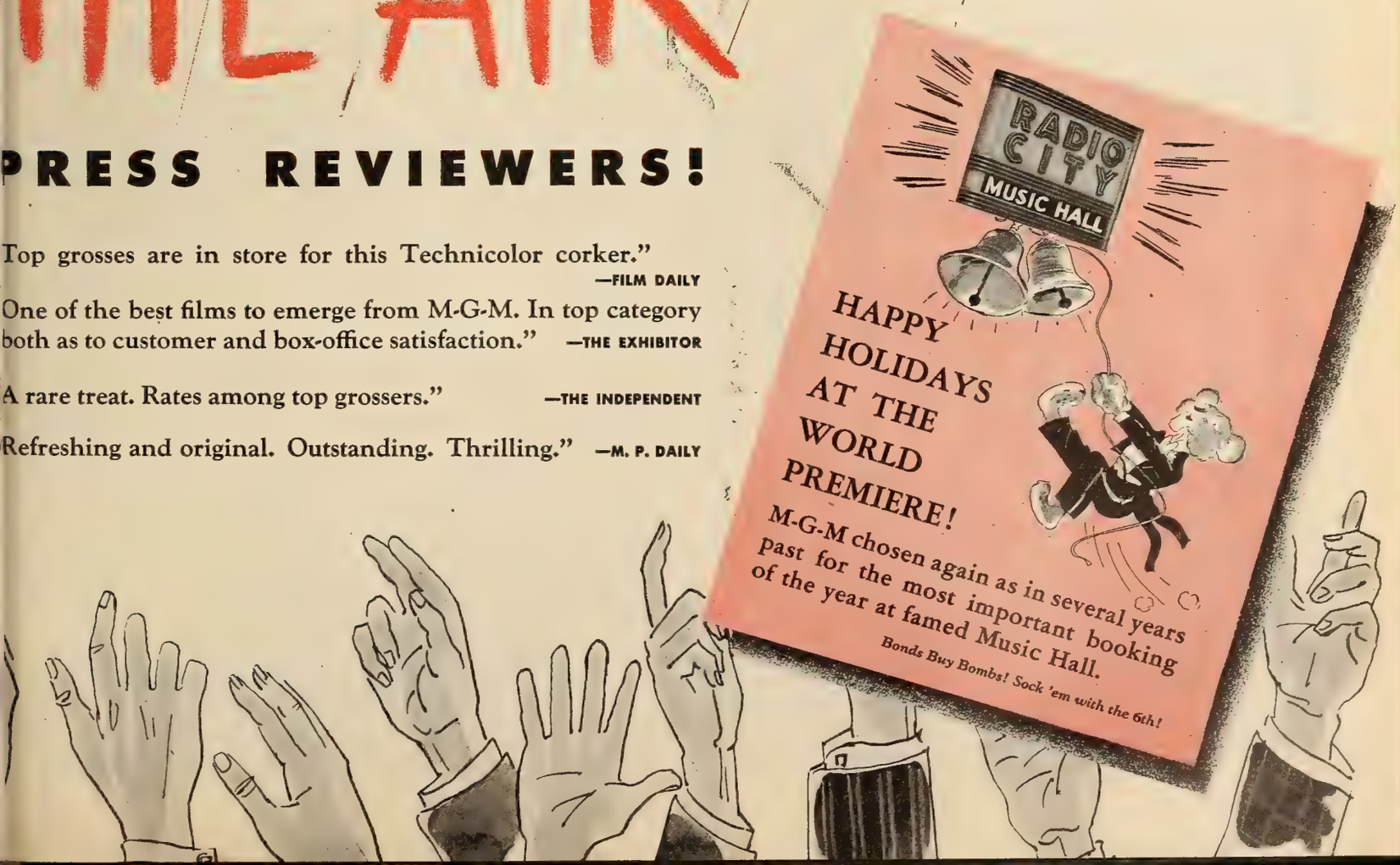
PRESS REVIEWERS!

Top grosses are in store for this Technicolor corker." —FILM DAILY

One of the best films to emerge from M-G-M. In top category both as to customer and box-office satisfaction." —THE EXHIBITOR

A rare treat. Rates among top grossers." —THE INDEPENDENT

Refreshing and original. Outstanding. Thrilling." —M. P. DAILY



AFM Strike Threat Faces Blue Web

A jurisdictional dispute between the American Federation of Musicians and the National Association of Broadcast Engineers and Technicians on the question of which union has jurisdiction over 'platter turners,' threatens to involve the Blue Network in a series of 'wildcat' strikes, according to Mark Woods, network president.

Woods said that after negotiations with James C. Petrillo, AFM president, last June, the network had agreed, in order to avert a musicians' strike, to accept AFM jurisdiction over the 'platter turners.' Subsequently, according to Woods, the National Labor Relations Board held that the former *status quo* should be upheld, which meant that NABET should have jurisdiction, Woods explained.

B. and K. Sell Roosevelt

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Balaban and Katz has sold its Roosevelt Theatre to the Camwill Realty Corp., New York, for $500,000, and at the same time, has leased the 1,500-seat house from the new owners for 25 years, at $33,000 annual rental. The new owner has negotiated a 20-year loan for $333,000, at 4 per cent interest, through the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

None of 342 Rejected

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—For the fourth consecutive month the Chicago censor board has not rejected any pictures viewed, passing all of the 64 pictures screened; and none were classified for adults only. Since August, the board has given all of the 342 pictures seen the all clear sign.

Ask Cooperation Between Films and Television

(*Continued from page* 1)

industry, which was posed to a technical roundtable discussion conducted by Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, vice-chairman of the Radio Technical Planning Board and Society of Motion Picture Engineers official.

Participants in the roundtable included: O. B. Hanson, NBC; J. E. Keister, General Electric; Dr. C. B. Jolliffe, RCA; F. J. Bingley, Philco; A. H. Brolly, Balaban and Katz; Klaus Landsberg, Television Productions, and Curtis Mason of Earl C. Anthony Productions.

"Television can be of great use to the motion picture industry and will provide theatres with a new agency of entertainment," it was pointed out by the panel. "Also, both can help each other in getting the public to fully understand both entertainment media," it was said. "Sixteen-millimeter films can also play an important role in rounding out television programs," the panel observed.

Television programs for homes will not compete with film programs for theatres, it was pointed out during the discussion, since home programs will be more "intimate" in their appeal and more spontaneous in their format.

The roundtable discussion, attended by delegates from film, television, radio, advertising and talent companies, was followed by a luncheon, at which Walter O'Keefe was master of ceremonies, and Ed Wynn, Victor Berge, Larry Brooks and others participated.

The annual meeting of TBA's members was also held yesterday, at which J. R. Poppele of radio station WOR was elected president, succeeding Dr. Allen B. DuMont; Robert L. Gibson was elected vice-president succeeding Lewis Allen Weiss, and O. B. Hanson was named assistant secretary-treasurer, a new post. Will Baltin was reelected secretary-treasurer.

Reelected to the board of directors were: DuMont, F. J. Bingley of Philco, and Curtis W. Mason, of Earl C. Anthony, Inc. Poppele was appointed to the board to fill the unexpired term of Worthington C. Miner of CBS, resigned.

New active members voted into TBA were Farnsworth Television and Radio; Bremer Broadcasting and Yankee Network. New affiliated members include 20th Century-Fox, Rauland Corp. (understood to hold the Baird patents for theatre television), American Television Laboratories and Federal Telephone and Radio Corp. RCA Victor division of RCA and Raytheon Manufacturing Co. were elevated from affiliated to active membership since they have filed with the Federal Communications Commission for permission to build television stations. A new designation of non dues paying educational members was voted by the board to include educational institutions interested in television, with the board granted discretion to determine whether these members admitted should pay dues.

Lehr To Lead ATS Television Meet

Lew Lehr, 20th-Fox Movietone newsreel commentator, will serve as program chairman of a pre-Christmas meeting of the American Television Society in the Museum of Modern Art, here, tomorrow night. Speakers will include Klaus Landsberg, director of television of station W6XYZ, Hollywood; Bill Slater, sports commentator, and Ted Genock, assignment editor of Paramount News.

RCA Service Has a Report on Theatre Video

RCA has prepared a handbook for theatre managers and projectionists on the what, how and why of theatre television, for distribution later this month, it has been announced by W. L. Jones, RCA Service Co. vice-president.

Fox, Ratto Cited

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Jack Fox, manager of Loew's Columbia, and Angie Ratto, manager of Loew's Palace, today were cited by the company for their promotions for M-G-M's 20th anniversary, with presentations made by J. Russell Young, commission head of the District of Columbia, at a luncheon of Loew-M-G-M theatre associates. John F. Allen, M-G-M branch manager, was host.

Film on World Series

The American Baseball League has completed production of a two-reeler of the 1944 World Series which will be shown first to members of the Armed Forces overseas and in this country. Both 16 and 35 mm prints are available to schools, clubs and other organizations. Only cost involved is the express charge to and from Chicago.

Authorities Differ On Crescent Case As a Precedent

(*Continued from page* 1)

an important influence upon the other three film cases still in the courts.

The same issues which in the Crescent case led to the order of divestiture are involved in the Schine and Griffith cases, they contend, and while the situation presented in the New York case is admittedly somewhat different, Department officials believe that the Crescent decision may be taken as a precedent.

As seen by one official speaking informally, the Supreme Court's ruling indicates that it will affirm divorce wherever the Government can prove the existence of a situation justifying such action as a remedy.

U. S. Opinion

Speaking of the New York case, a spokesman for the Department said the Crescent opinion "was an order that the several companies had to unload their interest in each other, not a case of a distributor or producer owning theatres, but it did hold that the close system of management and common control of the several companies was such you could not expect to have competition between them so long as they were under common ownership and control. The same reasoning might well apply to the circuits owned by the distributors."

Commenting on the decision, Assistant Attorney-General Wendell Berge, pointing out that this is the first divestiture case involving the industry to reach the Supreme Court, said, "It is only part, however, of a larger program in the Anti-Trust division involving restraints of trade in the motion picture industry. There are now pending three other cases involving the industry. Undecided in the District courts are the two companion cases against large circuits operating in other areas, Schine and Griffith, and the New York case.

"The Government believes that the principles announced by the Supreme Court in the Crescent case have an important bearing on all three of these pending cases."

Schine, Crescent Suits Are Held Not Similar

The Schine anti-trust suit, waiting decision in Buffalo Federal court with briefs scheduled to be submitted by the Department of Justice on Friday, will not be affected by the Supreme Court ruling in the Crescent suit, attorneys for Schine and some major companies believe. However, should the court find that the facts in the Schine case are akin to those in the Crescent suit, then the relief sought by the Government will probably be along the same lines, it is felt.

However, Schine attorneys point out, the Government first must prove the facts in the two cases to be identical, in the face of its bills of complaint which set forth conditions entirely dissimilar, other than that both charge violations of the Sherman anti-trust act.

Barnes, Haverlin Named

Z. C. Barnes and Carl Haverlin, sales manager and station relations manager, respectively, of Mutual Broadcasting, here, have been elected vice-presidents.

Commons Reminded Of British Censor

London, Dec. 12.—"The Hays Office is like the British board of censors—they both are non-governmental bodies, and I don't propose to make representations to either," Hugh Dalton, president of the Board of Trade, replied when questioned in the House of Commons here today regarding "the banning of British films in America on trivial grounds."

The question was a result of considerable press agitation here over the American ban on "Fanny By Gaslight."

SOPEG Calls Units On Amalgamation

Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild Local 109, CIO, representing 3,000 "white collar" workers in home offices and exchanges, is holding meetings this week of members in each company to ascertain sentiment for an amalgamation with United Office and Professional Workers of America, Local 1, CIO. If sentiment favors an amalgamation, the entire membership will be polled, with ballots mailed Dec. 18 and the polls closing Jan. 1.

Castle Joins Paramount

St. Louis, Nov. 23.—James S. Castle, with Fanchon and Marco here for 12 years, has resigned to join the field publicity staff of Paramount, covering St. Louis, Kansas City and Des Moines. He replaces Babe Cohn who has joined Fox Midwest in Kansas City.

Short Subject Reviews

"The Liberation of Paris"

(*French Ministry of Information*)

The Committee of the Liberation of the French Motion Picture Industry rates high praise for having recorded for posterity scenes of France's heroic struggle for freedom. Shot during the week of the uprising of the French Forces of the Interior, the pictures are vivid, possessing a rare quality of genuineness.

Particularly effective are sequences in which the camera records the triumphal march of General DeGaulle through Paris as its delirious citizenry greets him. English commentary by Charles Boyer will be used in the U. S. Running time, 40 minutes.

"West Point"

(*RKO-Pathe*)

Frederic Ullman, Jr., produced the current "This Is America" at West Point, doing 'portraits' of several former students: Generals Dwight D. Eisenhower, Mark Wayne Clark, Douglas MacArthur and 'Vinegar Joe' Stilwell.

Little-shown corners of the Academy, such as the campus tailor shop, whose aged proprietors have outfitted generation upon generation of America's graduate soldiers, lend a human touch. West Point's place in peace time is effectively brought out as narrator Dwight Weist mentions the men who have taken their place as 'peace architects,' like Goethals of the Panama Canal. This is a timely subject carrying universal appeal. Photography, direction and commentary are all fine. Running time, 17 minutes.

"I Am an American"

(*Warners*)

Warners has a very timely and well handled short in this one, which fits into the present pattern of unity of all races and nationalities. Crane Wilbur wrote and directed with apparent understanding of the importance of the theory the subject supports. It traces the growth of an immigrant family and the part each successive generation of that family has played in the development of America. Wilbur's Kanowski clan serves to typify the hundreds of thousands of naturalized Americans whose efforts have built the U. S. "I Am an American" is a heart-warming experience. Running time, 20 minutes.

"Mystery of the River Boat"

(*Universal Serial*)

First two chapters of the 13-chapter Universal serial, "Mystery of the River Boat," reveals a rather unique departure from the usual run of chapter film. Instead of the abundance of action characteristic of this type, about a quarter of the footage is devoted to musical numbers delivered by Marion Martin, a three-man band, and the rather dreary vaudeville routine of Eddie Quillan. This may be a sop to draw in adults, but it will leave the small-fry who are the main support of the serial somewhat restless. Plot is concerned with efforts of a gang to secure control of land, apparently worthless, which is the source of rich oil deposits. The cast features Robert Lowery, Marjory Clements. Lyle Talbot, Francis McDonald, Arthur Hohl, Mantan Moreland and Quillan. Running time, 18-20 minutes.

3 Circuits Planning Negro Theatres

Atlanta, Dec. 12.—Plans are in work in the Southeast for several new theatres for Negroes, to be constructed in the post war. Wometco Theatres, Miami, will build two Negro houses here when material and manpower are available.

Other circuits which have plans for similar projects include: Bijou Amusement Co., for which Milton Starr has revealed plans for theatres in Chattanooga, Nashville and Knoxville, and Baily Amusement Co., which will build additional Negro theatres in this area.

3 New Houses, One Rebuilt in South

Plans for three more new theatres and for the rebuilding of one destroyed by fire, are in work in Southern cities.

An 1,800-seat house will be built in Shreveport, La., at a cost of $100,000; W. C. Pringle will rebuild a recently burned-out theatre in Glenmore, La., at a cost of $17,500; work will begin immediately on a theatre in Jackson, Miss., owner Dr. A. H. McCoy estimating cost at $22,000; Fred T. McLendon of Union Springs, Ala., is building a 550-seat house in Georgiana, Ala.

War Town Gets Another

Nashville, Dec. 12.—A fourth theatre, the Jefferson, was opened recently at Oak Ridge, Tenn., to accommodate employes of Clinton Engineering Works, a huge war plant whose Recreation and Welfare Association also constructed and operates the Ridge, Center and Grove there.

Looks like the snow-man's pleased with his pretty designer, Vera Hruba Ralston, and Lloyd Corrigan's pleased with Vera, his god-child, in Republic's winter fun festival, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE." ADVT.

U. K. Studios Are Released

(Continued from page 1)

being put on the War Office for suitable arrangements to be made in that connection.

All derequisitioned studios are scheduled to be put into a producers' pool and will be allocated by the British Film Producers Association's pool committee, with the Board of Trade acting as the ultimate arbiter in disputes.

It is learned unofficially, but on the highest authority, that the British government is determined, wherever possible that the re-equipment of studios be undertaken by British sources, partially to stimulate British industry, but principally to correct the adverse dollar exchange situation. Import licenses for equipment will be closely studied with a view to insuring whether equipment can possibly be manufactured here.

Technical committees representing equipment manufacturers and producers are being formed for the purpose of taking a census of all studio requirements and potentialities of manufacturers, with the government taking the position that British films be made with the finest equipment but subject to the proviso that it be British. This relates especially to sound equipment, with the implication being made that American systems were hitherto used as a result of sales arguments that films made only with this equipment would be suitable for the American market, whereas the British government and producers claim that British systems are of equal merit.

A. P. Drohan Dies

TORONTO, Dec. 12.—A. P. Drohan, 56, manager of the Capitol for Famous Players-Canadian, at Chatham, Ont., for almost 25 years, died there this week. He is survived by a widow, daughter and three sons.

"The Keys of the Kingdom"

(Continued from page 1)

of Bernadette" or "Going My Way" will have any misgivings concerning "The Keys of the Kingdom," once he has seen the latter. It is as different from those pictures as night from day, but it poses exhibition questions akin to those which have been answered already by the two productions first named. Those questions are largely questions of acceptability and good taste. Let it be said, then, that the standards attained in "The Keys of the Kingdom" are those of superior production discernment and ability. For this is a picture with which any exhibitor can face his customers confidently and pridefully, sure not only of their verdict but of their praise, as well. The nation's box offices will sing that praise for many, many months to come.

THE Cronin novel of the orphaned Scotch boy who became a priest and missionary and found his life's work among the poor of an inland city in China is known to millions of readers. It is unlikely that any number of them will be displeased with the Joseph L. Mankiewicz and Nunnally Johnson screenplay which has been fashioned from the novel, for it is exceptionally faithful to its source. Gregory Peck's flawless characterization of Father Francis Chisholm, the missionary, is an achievement that ranks with some of the best performances in kind. Under John M. Stahl's direction, a large and talented cast has captured the spirit of the Cronin novel and inhabited it with the realities of human experience. Memorable among them are Edmund Gwenn, Sir Cedric Hardwicke and Vincent Price, as clergymen; Benson Fong, Leonard Strong and Philip Ahn, as native friends of Father Chisholm's; Thomas Mitchell, as the agnostic doctor-friend of the priest's; Rosa Stradner, Sara Allgood and Ruth Ford, as missionary nuns; Roddy MacDowall, as Francis Chisholm, the boy; James Gleason and Anne Revere, as a missionary and his wife; Jane Ball, Peggy Anne Garner and Edith Barrett, as female influences in the younger years of the priest, and Ruth Nelson and Dennis Hoey, as his parents.

The story begins with the return from China of the aged missionary to his Scottish home parish where Sir Cedric visits him preparatory to recommending the old priest's retirement against the will of the latter. He comes upon the missionary's journal, kept faithfully over the years, and in its pages finds the life story of Francis Chisholm. Orphaned by circumstances which grew out of prejudice and intolerance for his father's religion, the boy is befriended by distant relatives and becomes a priest after the girl he loved, disappointed by his absence, proves unfaithful. The priest's innate tolerance and liberality prove unpopular in the small Scotch parishes to which he is assigned and, eventually, he is sent to China as a missionary. There his mission grows, through labor, devotion and the friends his kindliness and charitableness win. His church is destroyed when the city is bombarded by troops in pursuit of a bandit army which has seized the town. He saves the remainder of his mission by aiding in the destruction of the assault troops.

THEN begin the long years of rebuilding and expanding his mission and caring for his converts; years in which his great human qualities which had made a failure of him at home, crown his life with achievement and success. Through the journal, Sir Cedric comes to know the man, and leaves him determined to recommend that he be continued in the home parish he loves.

Mankiewicz, who produced as well as collaborated on the screen play, has seen to it that the picture received the best of all at his command. In addition to writing, direction and acting, outstanding contributions have been made by Arthur Miller, director of photography; in Alfred Newman's music and Edward Powell's orchestral arrangements; by Guy Pearce in makeup, and in all technical departments.

Running time, 137 minutes. "G."* Release in January.

SHERWIN KANE

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Marriage' Popular, $13,700 Worth

TORONTO, Dec. 12.—"Marriage Is a Private Affair" is popular at Loew's Theatre, with $13,700 in sight, while both the Imperial and Shea's are pulling up from a recent lull, $13,300 being the promise at both the Imperial for "The Doughgirls," and at Shea's for "The Very Thought of You."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 14:

"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $13,700. (Average: $11,200).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,800).

'Yanks' $18,000 Is Leader in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Dec. 12.—This week is expected to be near average here, despite Christmas shopping having reached its peak. "Abroad with Two Yanks" will probably lead with $18,000 at the Great Lakes.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 16:

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $17,400).
"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
"The End of the Road" (Rep.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,200).
"Three Is a Family" (UA)
"Black Magic" (Mono.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $9,700).
"Dead End" (Film Classics)
"The Kid from Spain" (Film Classics)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,200).
"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.)
"Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,400).

5% British Quota Increase by 1947

(Continued from page 1)

1945, but will increase to 22½ per cent in 1946 and to 25 in 1947; while the exhibitors' quota, after remaining at its present 15 per cent next year, will go up to 17½ per cent in 1946 and to 20 per cent in 1947, according to the BOT recommendations.

Owing to the plentitude of British short subjects, due mainly to extensive Ministry of Information production, the quota advances called for in that class are even sharper: for distributors, a boost from 15 per cent this year to 22½ per cent next year, to 25 per cent in 1946 and 1947; for exhibitors, a parallel increase to 20 per cent next year from the 12½ per cent now in effect, followed by a levelling off at 22½ per cent in 1946 and 1947.

At the same time, the BOT recommends a blanket jump of 50 per cent in the existing labor-cost test figures which were set up by the 1938 Parliamentary act. These now stand at $30,000 per production or about $4 per foot for minimum quota ranking; for double quota: a production cost of between $90,000 and $150,000, or $12 to $20 per foot; and for triple quota: a minimum of $150,000, or $20 per foot.

American distributors here will accept the quota percentage increases willingly, realizing the necessity for increasing Britain's film output, it was indicated by some of their London representatives. It was said they will be especially pleased by the labor-cost adjustment, regarding this as an effective answer to the now-discredited proposal of the BOT's monopoly committee, which recommended concentration on medium-priced features rather than "a smaller number of speculative luxury products."

Baltimore Matinees Off, Nights Good

BALTIMORE, Dec. 12.—Downtown theatres report matinee business is below normal and blame pre-Christmas shopping. Nights, however, are holding well, and with fairly substantial openings, box offices are hitting about normal. Topping the current list is "Woman in the Window", plus a stage show, taking $18,500 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 14:

"Three Is a Family" (UA)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"The Man in Half Moon Street" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,000).
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000).
"Woman in the Window" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Johnny Cahill, Lois Lee, Morey and Eaton, The Hartnells, Three Edward Bros. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,500).
"When the Lights Go on Again" (PRC)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,000).

Harry Weeks Dies

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 12.—Harry B. Weeks, 64, former vaudeville player on the old Keith circuit, died yesterday in Camden Hospital. Weeks had been employed lately at a local film house.

Production Up Slightly, to 48, Against 45

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—The production index continued its slow upward climb last week, to reach 48, compared with 45 in work during the week before. Nine features were completed, and 11 started. Work was resumed on RKO Radio's "Isle of the Dead," long suspended because of the illness of Boris Karloff, its star.

The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Men of the Deep."

Started: "Until Tomorrow," with Richard Dix, Janis Carter, Jeff Donnell, Loren Tindall; "Out of the Fog," with William Wright, Nina Foch, Otto Kruger.

Shooting: "Rockin' in the Rockies," "A Thousand and One Nights," "One Against Seven."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Twice Blessed," "The Hidden Eye," "Alter Ego," "Weekend at the Waldorf," "Without Love," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Hold High the Torch," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Finished: "The Model Murder."

Paramount

Started: "Cheezit, the Corpse," with William Gargan, Ann Savage, Leo Gorcey, George Zucco, Gorge E. Stone.

Shooting: "Good Intentions," "The Virginian," "The Lost Weekend," "The Love Letters," "The Affairs of Susan," "Duffy's Tavern."

RKO Radio

Finished: "The Enchanted Cottage."

Shooting: "Isle of the Dead," "Johnny Angel," "Follow Your Heart," "The Spanish Main," "Invisible Army," "Along Came Jones" (International).

Republic

Finished: "Behind the Ships," "Lone Texas Ranger," "Earl Carroll Vanities," "Johnny March" (Walter Colmes).

Started: "Sheriff of Cimarron," with Sunset Carson, Linda Stirling, Riley Hill, Olin Howland; "Tell It to a Star," with Ruth Terry, Robert Livingston, Alan Mowbray, Franklyn Pangborn; "Tugboat Annie's Son," with Jane Darwell, Edgar Kennedy, Pamela Blake, Barton Yarborough, H. B. Warner, Sandra Berkova.

Shooting: "Utah."

20th Century-Fox

Started: "Colonel Effingham's Raid," with Charles Coburn, Joan Bennett, William Eythe, Allyn Joslyn, Carol Andrews, Donald Meek, George Melford, Roy Roberts, Thurston Hall, Darby Jones.

Shooting: "First, Last and Always," "The Bullfighters," "A Bell for Adano," "Molly, Bless Her."

United Artists

Shooting: "Guest Wife" (Skirball-Manning), "G. I. Joe" (Cowan), "A Walk in the Sun" (Bronston), "Blood on the Sun" (Cagney), "Bedside Manner" (Stone).

Universal

Finished: "Salome — Where She Danced," "Here Come the Co-Eds."

Started: "Easy to Look At," with Gloria Jean, Kirby Grant, Eric Blore, J. Edward Bromberg, George Dolenz, Mildred Law; "Blonde Ransom," with Donald Cook, Virginia Gray.

Shooting: "I'll Tell the World."

Warners

Started: "This Love of Ours," with John Garfield, Eleanor Parker, Dane Clark, John Ridgely, Charles Drake, Tom D'Andrea, Don McGuire; "Mildred Pierce," with Joan Crawford, Jack Carson, Zachary Scott, Anne Blythe, Jo Ann Marlowe, Eve Arden.

Shooting: "Hotel Berlin," "The Big Sleep," "San Antonio."

Review

"Music for Millions"

(M-G-M)

WITH TWO such film-wise craftsmen at the helm—producer Joe Pasternak and director Henry Koster—"Music for Millions" comes up a sound, well-constructed vehicle for such natural performers as little Margaret O'Brien and June Allyson. The film, related in sweetly sentimental style, is the stuff of which mass entertainment is compounded. There is an extra dividend for music lovers as the film pours out a generous measure of the classics, keyed to popular taste, stressing Dvorak, Grieg, Herbert, Debussy, among others. Jose Iturbi is as accomplished an actor as he is a musician, and Jimmy Durante displays those peculiar talents which have earned him a wide following. It hardly seems possible that "Music for Millions" can miss.

The story, however, which is not of sufficient weight to sustain two hours in the telling, concerns a theme which is assuming more universality every day: the mother-in-law whose father is somewhere in the South Pacific. Miss Allyson is the case in point and, not having heard from her husband for months, naturally is despondent. Comes little Margaret, her sister, to console her. The drama is played against the musical backdrop of a symphony orchestra, led by Iturbi, with Miss Allyson one of his musicians. Marsha Hunt, a member of the orchestra, the complexion of which assumes an increasingly feminine cast as male members leave for service, waylays a telegram from the War Department informing of the death in action of Miss Allyson's husband. But the Department is not infallible and the husband's safety is later revealed when a long-awaited letter from the husband turns up; shortly afterward the baby is born, amid general rejoicing.

Others in the cast are: Hugh Herbert, in an amusing role as a forger; Harry Davenport, Marie Wilson, Larry Adler and his harmonica; Ben Lessy, Connie Gilchrist, Katharine Balfour, Helen Gilbert, Mary Parker, Madeleine LeBeau. Myles Connolly did the original, Georgia Stoll was responsible for musical adaptation and direction, while Michael Michalet did incidental music. Capable trio of Joseph Nussbaum, Ted Duncan and Calvin Jackson performed the orchestration, which bulks large in the production.

Running time, 120 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

CHARLES RYWECK

"G" denotes general classification.

Stevens Experiments On Theatre Sound

Sound experiments, which have been held back since the outbreak of the war, will be resumed, limitedly, at the Metropolitan Opera House here, by the Stevens Institute of Technology, under the direction of Harold Burris-Meyer. The experiments are for the development of an acoustic "envelope" for "dead" theatres and for sound recording studios.

Results from a theatre angle, it is said, would be the elimination of microphones in theatres for singers. The basic principles are those used by Walt Disney in "Fantasia." There will be no commercial use until after the war, since Stevens Institute, while allowed to experiment, cannot, in view of its war work, devote much time now to more than outlining the commercial aspects.

CBS Reception for Kaye

Columbia Broadcasting will hold a reception for Danny Kaye and his wife, Sylvia Fine, in the Hotel Berkshire, here, today. Kaye and Harry James and his band will start a new air show on CBS on Jan. 6.

Offer Henie Million For London and Paris

International Pictures, here, yesterday reported that Sonja Henie had rejected an offer made by a British syndicate of $1,000,000 for 25 ice-show performances in London and Paris immediately after the war in Europe. International added that Miss Henie's show has an advance sale of $450,000 in Chicago, and that $1,000,000 is expected from 22 performances from her next New York Madison Square Garden booking.

She will return to Hollywood next year to appear in "The Countess of Monte Cristo," for International.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 12

BARBARA STANWYCK has signed an agreement with Hal B. Wallis to make one picture annually over a period of years. Under the deal, Wallis will share the star's contract with Warners. . . . Charles Vidor has been signed by RKO to direct the Irene Dunne-Charles Coburn starrer, "Over 21." . . . Ann Sheridan, Dennis Morgan and S. Z. Sakall head the cast of "When Old New York Was Young," which will go into production shortly after Jan. 1 at Warners. Jerry Wald will produce and Raoul Walsh will direct the color musical.

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Collette Lyons and 'Pinky' Lee have been assigned comedy roles in "Blonde Ransom," currently in work at Universal. . . . Preston Foster has been given a principal role opposite Gail Patrick in M-G-M's "Twice Blessed." David B. Kaufman, formerly editorial assistant on the magazine Click, has joined Monogram's publicity department. . . . Lewis Russell, Broadway actor, has been signed by Paramount for an important part in "The Lost Weekend."

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Frances Langford will be starred in two RKO features in 1945. . . . Willard Parker, recently discharged from the Army, has been assigned the stellar role in Columbia's "The Fighting Guardsman." . . . RKO has purchased "Mexican Merry-Go-Round," original by Vicki Baum. . . . M-G-M has signed Warner Anderson to a contract and assigned him the romantic lead opposite Hedy Lamarr in "Her Highness and the Bellboy." . . . Jimmy Dean and his Trail Riders have been signed for specialty numbers in Universal's "I'll Tell the World."

•

B. G. DeSylva's first independent production for Paramount will be "The Stork Club," musical starring Betty Hutton and built around the famous New York night spot.

Stetson Is Elected By St. Louis Variety

St. Louis, Dec. 12.—Albert Stetson of Fanchon and Marco, has been elected chief barker of Variety Club No. 4. Others elected were: Louis K. Ansell, first assistant chief barker; Andrew Dietz, second assistant; Joseph C. Ansell, doughguy, and Albert Wheeler, property master. Crew members are: Thomas James, Paul Krueger, E. L. Murphy, M. L. Plessner, Barney Rosenthal and Matt Schulter.

Club theatre members have sold $11,385,450 in 'E' bonds since Pearl Harbor, representing 27,146 individual sales.

Baltimore Variety Names Durkee Chief

BALTIMORE, Dec. 12.—Frank H. Durkee, head of the Durkee circuit, has been named chief barker of the local Variety Club, succeeding Rodney Collier. Others elected were: Harry Goldman, first assistant chief barker; C. Elmer Nolter, second assistant; Nick Weems, treasurer, and Sam Diamond, secretary.

The new board of governors includes, besides the officers: Harry Kahn, Arthur Price, Chauncey Wolfe, Louis Becker, Isador Rappaport and Morris Oletsky. Installations will be in January.

Buffalo Variety Club Elects Lux New Head

BUFFALO, Dec. 12.—Buffalo Variety Tent No. 7, elected new officers last night, including Elmer F. Lux, chief barker; Dewey Michaels, first assistant; Andrew Gibson, second assistant; Murray Whiteman, secretary; Stanley Kozanowski, doughguy.

Ralph Maw and Gibson were elected delegates to the national meeting in June. Robert T. Murphy was re-elected national canvasman for Buffalo. Board members are: Constantine J. Basil, Irving Fried, George W. Ferguson and Jack Goldstein.

Capitol Gets 'Sheik'

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Herb Elisburg, national distributor of "Son of the Sheik," has named Henri Elman's Capitol Film Exchange as local distributor.

British Demand Better Break in U. S.: Korda

(*Continued from page* 1)

from the United States," Korda added. He arrived here this week from London.

The M-G-M production head said: "We do not want a trade 'war' with Hollywood. But in bygone years, England was a rich country and could afford to be indulgent. Today we cannot, and economic pressure dictates that if the British film industry is to exist it must have help."

Korda said that his own production plans are still entirely dependent on the war. "We have prepared 14 scripts and we will start the minute studios are available. We in England have had to do an incredible job with the paucity of manpower and material and with run-down equipment. Only 1,000 film men have been exempt from war work.

Wants Reciprocity

"After the war we feel that England is entitled to a free production in a greater capacity than ever before," Korda continued. "Postwar England cannot afford to pay as much for American films or have bad pictures forced on it in order to secure good ones. There must be reciprocity between England and Hollywood. Film stars and technicians of both countries will make the trip from London to Hollywood in probably 36 hours. M-G-M and I are in full accord on this interchange of talent and Nicholas Schenck and L. B. Mayer understand our problems perfectly. We have developed many top technicians, writers, directors and actors in England during the war through the Ministry of Education's documentary film production."

Commenting on reissues, Korda declared that the really fine films of the past should be shown, "but not all the 'junk' we have been getting." Raw stock supply was described by the producer as "fair," but he said that England now is producing only between 25 to 40 per cent as many films as it made before the war.

On television, he said, "I wish they would stop it. It is such a nuisance to learn." He predicted that television would have "a tremendous influence on films" but felt he was not in a position to say whether it would be helpful or not.

"France," Korda said, "will make bigger and better pictures than ever before, but French production cannot compete with Hollywood."

Korda disclosed that he has wanted to make a series of pictures dealing with the British Empire, and stated that he will ask Mayer for the rights to "Green Dolphin Street," for which M-G-M paid $200,000. Its locale is New Zealand.

Russian Market

He revealed that the entire Russian film industry during the war is concentrating on making propaganda films, and added that Russia is "a tremendous source" of film making and a large potential market.

His trip to the Coast is mainly to get equipment to replace the "completely antiquated" articles available in England.

He expressed the belief that "England must make a deal with America by which American companies either would produce in England or buy British productions for the U. S. Before the war England was estimated to represent at least 25 per cent of the world gross of American companies and after the war it will be even higher. The continent does not count," he said. "That is just loose change. Our main problem is to make good pictures; if they are good they will have to be accepted by the U. S. If they are good and have a fair chance there will be no problem. If British films are kept out of America, adjustments will have to be made."

He said that there is talk in London about the British Government establishing a film bank for independent production.

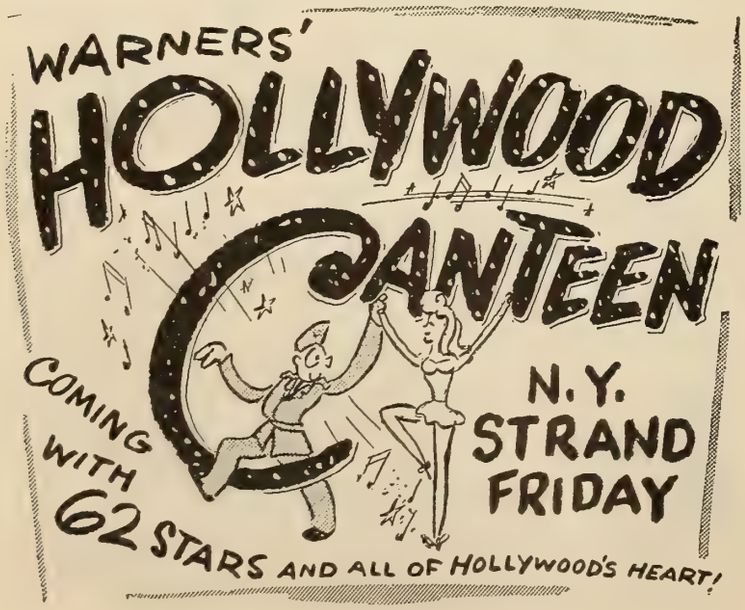
West Next Week

Korda plans to leave New York for the Coast in a week and will go back to England by Jan. 15. He stated that M-G-M has set no limit on the number of films he is to produce; he hopes to make 10 to 12 annually. He said, "My deal with M-G-M is for more years than I expect to be working." His latest film, "Perfect Strangers," is being scored now and will arrive in the U. S. in about six weeks.

Korda's first three productions which he hopes to start by May, will be "Velvet Coast," biography of Robert Louis Stevenson, to star Robert Donat; "Pastoral," to be produced and directed by Carol Reed, and "Pickwick Club," by Charles Dickens, to star Deborah Kerr. The first two may go into production at the same time, and each will cost $1,000,000, or more, he said.

Stromberg Back to Coast

Hunt Stromberg and his comptroller, Tom Parham, have returned to the Coast after 10 days in New York. Stromberg is understood to have conferred with his bankers and to have attended Broadway shows but did not make any buys. Stromberg is scheduled to put "Young Widow" into production sometime next month, with "Dishonored Lady" to follow in February.



Zanuck Sees German Film Reeducation a United Nations Job

(*Continued from page* 1)

which followed Zanuck's calling for the total abolition of the German film industry as a menace to world peace, a proposal made at the American Nobel Anniversary Dinner at the Astor Hotel last Sunday night—Zanuck suggested yesterday that the making of films for Germany be turned over to the film industries of America, Russia, England and France, under government supervision, with an over-all political production code guiding the making of these films. The main purpose of the films would be to show the German people the damage they have wrought in the world, Zanuck declared.

Technicians and other film workers in the German industry would be absorbed into the production undertakings of the United Nations if the workers could establish their freedom of Nazi ideology, Zanuck indicated. Only German film production would be eliminated and not exhibition in Germany, he intimated.

Large Attendance

Zanuck pointed out that the German film industry, under the Nazis, developed a much larger weekly attendance than we have in the United States. The Nazis have also greatly developed audiences for 16mm film. "There is very little direct film entertainment in Germany today," he said. The Nazis have further enlarged audiences in Switzerland, Sweden and Spain, and until recently had "excellent releasing facilities" in those countries, Zanuck disclosed.

Zanuck said he has no immediate plans to film the late Wendell Willkie's "One World," but he plans to see Mrs. Willkie about the project on his next visit to New York. He indicated that it is possibly too late now to accomplish some of the original purposes of the book and too early to produce it to play a part in the final determinations of the peace.

Zanuck's next undertaking will probably be a film dealing with the problem of the returning soldier, from the American viewpoint. He is presently exploring such a story written by Sidney Kingsley and tentatively titled "But for the Grace of John." Lamar Trotti and Dudley Nichols are working on the project and Zanuck is going to Washington to seek Government assistance.

Sizeable Backlog

Starting with "Winged Victory," 20th-Fox has a sizeable backlog of big productions completed, nearing completion or in preparation, Zanuck said. These include: "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," "Keys of the Kingdom," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "A Royal Scandal," "Thunderhead," "Nob Hill," "Diamond Jim," "Where Do We Go From Here?," "Hangover Square," "A Bell for Adano," "Dragonwyck," "Cluny Brown," "Leave Her to Heaven" and "Razor's Edge." Also planned for early production are "Forever Amber" and "Captain from Castile," a new Literary Guild selection just purchased.

Zanuck will go to Washington for a few days and plans to return to the West Coast from New York following the opening of "Winged Victory" at the Roxy Theatre on Dec. 20.

'Woman in Window' Good at $17,000

CINCINNATI, Dec. 12.—The traditional pre-holiday slump, manifest last week, has displayed a considerable reversal of trend, resulting in improved grosses on practically all fronts. In the forefront is "The Woman in the Window," which should register $17,000 at RKO's Albee, where the average is $13,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 13-16:

"The Woman in the Window" (RKO)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Riders of Santa Fe" (Univ.)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $2,300. (Average: $2,400).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
"The National Barn Dance" (Para.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Wuthering Heights" (Film Classics, reissue)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

'Again' and 'Venus' Book a Big $12,000

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 12.—Christmas shopping cut deeply into theatre grosses here last week. "Till We Meet Again" and "Ever Since Venus," however, grossed $12,000; it will hold over.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 14:

"Wuthering Heights" (Film Classics, reissue)
"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,800).
"Till We Met Again" (Para.)
"Ever Since Venus" (Col.)
STRAND—(2,200) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,500).
"Abroad with Two Yanks" (UA)
"The Unwritten Code" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $17,700).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"Hi, Beautiful" (Univ.)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,100).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"Bluebeard" (PRC)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Majestic. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $4,000).
"Murder in the Blue Room" (Univ.)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. On stage: Hope and Edwards, Arlina, Valley and Lynn, Tally Jones, Bobby Rollins, Wen Hai Troupe. Gross: $6,900. (Average: $7,000).
"That Uncertain Feeling" (UA)
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (60c-75c) 3 days. On stage: Vaughn Monroe's orchestra. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,900).

Crown Discusses ITT Expansion in 5 Cities

Alfred W. Crown, vice-president of International Theatrical and Television Corp., has returned from a trip to the West Coast. En route East he discussed with agents the possibilities of setting up branches in Salt Lake, Denver, Davenport, Ia., Columbus and Cleveland.

With headquarters in New York, I. T. and T. plans at least 20 branches throughout the country.

Review

"They Shall Have Faith"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Dec. 12

IF it's axiomatic that a picture about a doctor makes money, Jeffrey Bernerd's production ought to make three times as much, for the heroine's father, her grandfather, and the man she comes to love are all doctors. Played by Conrad Nagel, Sir Aubrey Smith, and Johnny Mack Brown, the three are united in their affection for Gale Storm, a victim of infantile paralysis. In her role of the self-willed society girl who fights the good fight against fear, Miss Storm gives the finest performance of her career.

William Nigh's direction is smooth and his handling of the dream sequences, difficult to put over, is unusually fine. Mary Boland contributes another of her heart-warming characterizations, and Frank Craven adds delightful comedy. Johnny Downs scores as the rejected suitor. Johnny Mack Brown, as the young surgeon, is somewhat overshadowed by the other performers.

The screenplay by Nigh and George Wallace Sayre, based on a story by themselves and Neil Rau, tells a simple story of a wealthy, fun-loving girl who, stricken with polio, loses the things that have made life worth while for her and her love of life itself. The patience and devotion of her family rekindle her courage and she offers herself as a subject for a new technique of treatment devised by a young Army surgeon. The operation is successful and the patient marries the doctor.

Running time, 83 minutes. "G."* Release date, Feb. 2, 1945.

THALIA BELL

**"G" denotes general classification.*

'Women', 'Creek' Are Boston's Best

BOSTON, Dec. 12.—Despite holdovers in many downtown houses, business in the Hub is still normal.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 13:

"Woman in the Window" (RKO)
RKO BOSTON—(3,200) (50c-85c-$1.10). Stage show with Count Basie. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $24,500).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
"When Strangers Marry" (Mono.)
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-70c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,000).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(1,500) ($1.10) 5th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,000).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
"Girl Rush" (RKO)
MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-55c-75c) Gross. $24,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Go West" (All-comedy program)
LAFFMOVIE—(1,300) (22c-33c-44c-55c) Gross: $10,400. (Average: $4,000).
"Frenchman's Creek" (Par.)
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (35c-55c-75c) Gross: $26,500. (Average: $24,000).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,900) (35c-55c-75c) Gross: $14,000. (Average: $17,500).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(2,900) (35c-55c-75c) Gross: $28,500. (Average: $27,500).
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
"That's My Baby" (Rep.)
TRANSLUX.—(900) (30c-55c-75c) Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
"When Strangers Marry" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT—(1,700) (35c-44c-55c-75c) Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,500).

FP-C Sets Yule Parties

TORONTO, Dec. 12.—Employes of the 18 Famous Players theatres here have been invited to a Christmas party to be held in the Victoria Theatre at midnight on Dec. 16. Arrangements for the affair are in charge of Tom Daley, manager of the Imperial. The FP-C head office staff will have its holiday reception at the King Edward Hotel on Dec. 22.

Molly Lewin Resigns

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—Molly Lewin, public relations representative of the Screen Actors Guild and editor of *The Screen Actor*, SAG publication, since March, 1942, has resigned, effective Jan. 31, to move to New York.

Legion Classifies 10 New Productions

The Legion of Decency has classified the following films: Class A-1, "The Old Texas Trail," Universal; "She's a Sweetheart," Columbia; "Song of the Range," Monogram; Class A-II, "Belle of the Yukon," "Experiment Perilous," RKO; "Main Street After Dark," "The Thin Man Goes Home," M-G-M; "Night Club Girl," Universal; "Three Is a Family," "Tomorrow the World," United Artists.

'Seeing You' Dec. 21

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 12.—"I'll Be Seeing You" will have its world premiere here Dec. 21, at the Wilshire, United Artists and Carthay Circle.

Holiday Shopping Hits Phila., but Not 'Lonely Heart'

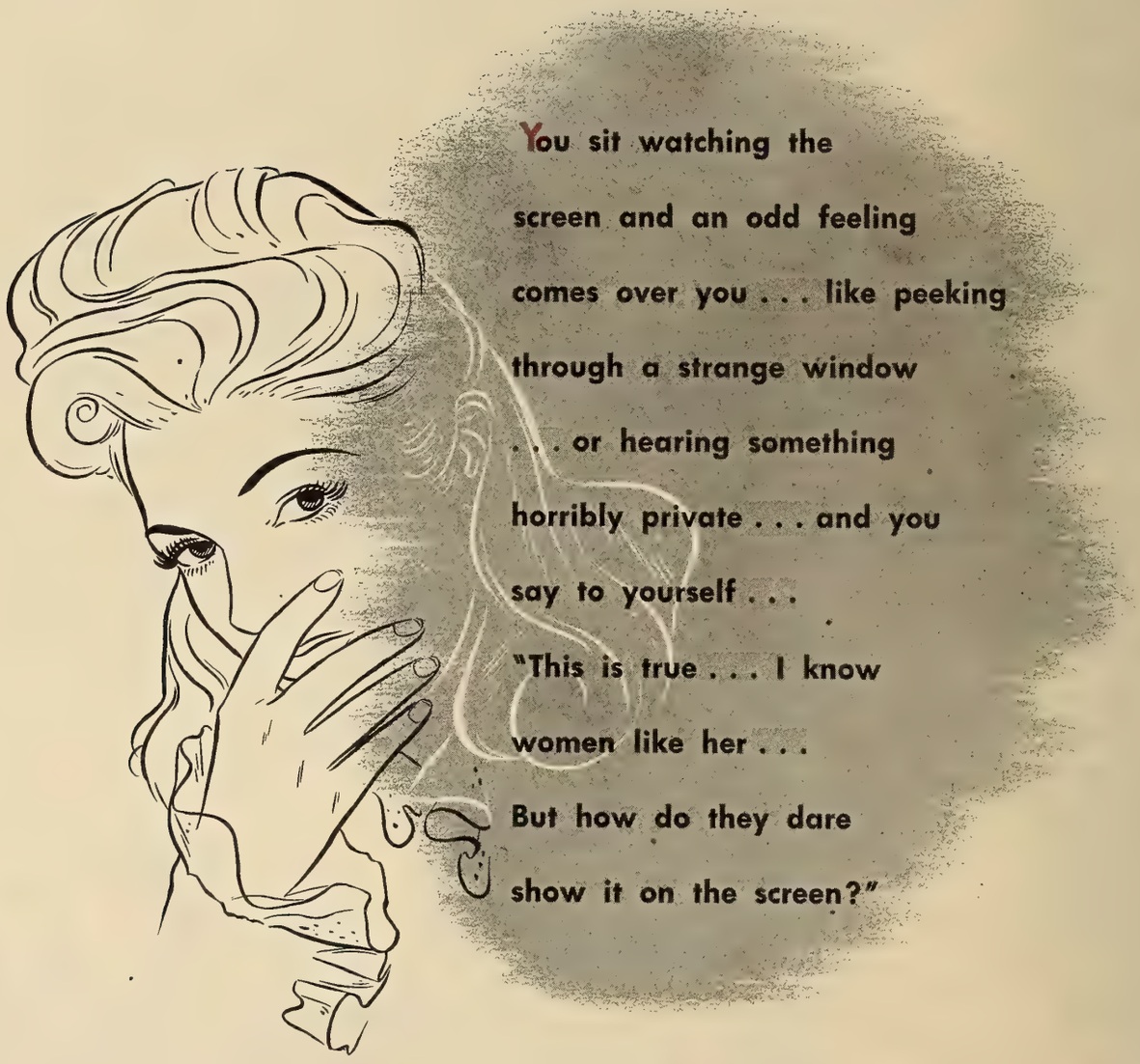
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12.—Business in downtown houses is suffering from the pre-holiday shopping season. The bright spot is "None But the Lonely Heart," which points to $29,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 13-15:

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $14,600).
"The Conspirators" (WB)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $4,000).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,000).
"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine" (Mono.) 6 days
"The Climax" (Univ.) 1 day
EARLE—(3,600) (40c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including D'Artega and his all-girl band. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $27,000).
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $20,500).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $6,600).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $29,200. (Average: $22,500).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $19,300. (Average: $20,000).
"The Master Race" (RKO)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,400).

Local 771 Installs

Morrie Roizman has been installed as president of Motion Picture Film Editors, Local 771, IATSE. Others who have taken office are Jack Bush, vice president; David Cummins, secretary, and Frank Maddens, treasurer.



That's the kind of a picture **"GUEST IN THE HOUSE"** *is*

Presented by

HUNT STROMBERG

starring

ANNE BAXTER *with* RALPH BELLAMY

ALINE MacMAHON • RUTH WARRICK

SCOTT McKAY • MARIE McDONALD

Jerome Cowan • Percy Kilbride • Margaret Hamilton • Connie Laird

From the Stage Play by Hagar Wilde and Dale Eunson • Screen Play by Ketti Frings

Director of Photography, Lee Garmes, A.S.C. • Directed by JOHN BRAHM

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 114 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1944 TEN CENTS

New Post-War Building for San Francisco

Remodeling Is on Top Of 'Items Needed'

By EDWARD MURPHY

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—Local independents and circuit owners have not been idle on postwar planning and a large number of them already know exactly in what direction they will strike out when the war ends.

Typical of many is A. Blumenfeld of Blumenfeld Theatres, which operates a number of theatres here and in outlying communities, who is already at work on postwar planning. His plans call for immediate postwar repairing and refurbishing, but do not include any new theatre construction.

However, there is evidence of new theatre construction planned after the

(*Continued on page* 11)

RCA Retirement Plan Effective

Employees of RCA film recording, film equipment and workers of all other branches in that corporation, numbering 40,000, are being enrolled this week in RCA's new employee retirement plan, which provides pensions and annuities for life to members, the company announced here yesterday.

Membership in the plan, effective Dec. 1, subject to approval by RCA stockholders and the U. S. Treasury Dept., is open to all employees and domestic subsidiaries who are 25 years

(*Continued on page* 11)

Rubin, Skouras at National Conference

The luncheon tomorrow at the Hotel Astor for the National Conference of Christians and Jews will be attended by approximately 600. J. Robert Rubin is chairman of the amusement division and Spyros P. Skouras, chairman of the committee on arrangements.

Basil O'Connor, head of the American Red Cross will be principal speaker. Major General Frederick E. Uhl, commanding general of the Fourth Service Command, will also speak.

High Prices Not Delaying Buying

Chicago, Dec. 13.—"Because of the acute product shortage, few pictures are turned down in subsequent runs here despite increased rentals, over which booking-buying circuits here, headed by Allied's 65-house combine, are having numerous squabbles with distributors.

It is indicated that Allied and Universal are closer to an agreement than ever before, and may sign up soon. 'U' has been deadlocked with the Allied combine for a year due to the inclusion of six percentage pictures on last season's list.

67 Inducted In Pioneers

Sixty-seven industry veterans were inducted into the Picture Pioneers at the organization's eighth annual dinner-conference at the Waldorf-Astoria here last night, attended by 300 members and guests.

Sam Rinzler was toastmaster at the dinner, characterized as an exhibitors' Christmas party. Speakers included Harry Brandt, Walter Vincent, Darryl F. Zanuck, Capt. Raymond Wild and James J. Walker. Honor scrolls were presented to Zanuck, John F. Harris, Robert J. O'Donnell, Walter Vincent and Francis Doublier. Justice Ferdinand Pecora administered the organizational oath to the new

(*Continued on page* 10)

War Effort First, Business Second For FWC: Skouras

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 13.—Dedicating Fox West Coast Theatres to redoubled support of its war efforts, Charles Skouras, president, told the annual business meeting of the circuit's Los Angeles and San Francisco executives, department heads and district and city managers, here today, that ordinary "business" is secondary.

Charles Skouras

"We have learned," Skouras said, "that wherever people gather there is opportunity for public service. It is up to all of us as individuals and as an organization to continue to

(*Continued on page* 11)

Lynn Farnol Rejoins Goldwyn on Jan. 1

Samuel Goldwyn announced yesterday, through RKO's home office, here, the return of Lynn Farnol to the Goldwyn organization as director of publicity at the studio in Hollywood. Farnol had previously held the same post for eight years. He succeeds George Glass, who resigned recently.

Farnol's appointment will become effective on Jan. 1, when he receives his release from the Army Air

(*Continued on page* 10)

"Can't Help Singing"

[*Universal*]

Hollywood, Dec. 13

UNIVERSAL is proud of "Can't Help Singing." It believes this Durbin vehicle—her first in color—will rank notably and high among the season's attractions; that it will be regarded not alone as a distinguished contribution to the difficult cause of memorable films, but as a pacemaker for peak grosses. Universal gets no arguments from this reviewer. He agrees without the shadow of a dissenting syllable.

"Can't Help Singing" is that rarity: a thorough delight. Captured beautifully are superb music and fine musicianship, a star who has never been in better voice or seen to more flattering photographic advantage, a romance with a sense of pleasant and always believable humor, a comedy line which is consistently straight and unforced, and colorful backgrounds of the California gold rush era. The whole package is Tiffany-like from outer wrapping to very core.

There are those in Hollywood who remain steadfast in their fixed conviction that a representative film cannot be brought off the line unless it is solid with story. This time, at least, they will be confounded by

(*Continued on page* 9)

Ask Industry For Pacific Film Program

OWI Overseas Bureau Requests 40 Pictures

The Government seeks from the film industry the same pattern of film program for the Pacific theatre as the industry furnished for Europe, the Office of War Information's overseas motion picture bureau having already started negotiations for the acquisition of 40 Hollywood features, from eight companies, to be used in psychological warfare, Louis Lober, acting chief of the film bureau, revealed here yesterday.

Cooperation has already been promised by the companies, Lober said, and the selection of films will proceed. The program will be in the "same pattern

(*Continued on page* 10)

Miss Van Upp Head Columbia Producer

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 13.—Columbia today appointed Virginia Van Upp executive producer in charge of all major pictures, effective Jan. 1. She will be the first woman to occupy the top production post at any studio. She succeeds Sidney Buchman, whose plans for entering independent produc-

(*Continued on page* 10)

WLB Approves Wage Boosts for Detroit

The Regional War Labor Board having jurisdiction over the Detroit area has approved a 10 per cent retroactive wage increase for exchange service employes in that city, including inspectors, shippers and poster clerks.

Film company exchange supervisors and representatives of the IATSE met here yesterday and signed applications for similar wage increases for the service workers in Dallas and Oklahoma City exchanges, and which will be submitted to RWLB directors in those areas for approval.

In Today's Issue

Review of "Can't Help Singing" starts on page 1. *Motion Picture Daily's* booking chart appears on page 8.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM J. KUPPER, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, who has been recuperating from pneumonia in Southern California, is fully recovered and will return to the home office tomorrow.

•

MORTON D. O'BRIEN, assistant director of projection and sound for Loew's Theatres, recently became a grandfather, a son having been born to Marine Corps CAPT. and MRS. M. J. O'BRIEN.

•

HARRY SHUMOW, Milwaukee M-G-M branch manager, has been stricken with pneumonia. SAM SHIRLEY, Chicago district manager, is replacing him temporarily.

•

LAWRENCE LAPIDUS, 18-year-old son of JULES LAPIDUS, Warners' Eastern division sales manager, will be inducted into the Navy next Wednesday.

•

CLAUDE RAINS is en route to New York from London following completion of his work in the British production, "Caesar and Cleopatra."

•

STEVE TRILLING, executive assistant to JACK L. WARNER, production head of Warner Bros., is expected in New York from Hollywood next Tuesday.

•

MAJOR JACK HOLT has received his Army discharge after two years with the Quartermaster Corps at Ft. Reno, Okla., and will resume film work.

•

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M director of exhibitor relations, is due in New York Saturday from Dallas and Los Angeles.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warners' general sales manager, returned here yesterday from the Coast and stop-overs en route East.

•

HAROLD POSTMAN, assistant to ALAN F. CUMMINGS, M-G-M head of exchange operations, is in New Haven.

•

JOEL BEZAHLER, M-G-M home office assistant to J. E. FLYNN, has returned to New York from Chicago and Omaha.

•

SIR ALEXANDER KORDA will leave for the Coast on Monday with a stopover in Chicago.

•

VINCENTE MINNELLI, M-G-M producer-director, will arrive on the Coast tomorrow from New York.

•

LOUIS SCHINE of the Schine Circuit is in New York from Gloversville.

•

KEN RENAUD, United Artists representative from the home office, is in Hartford, Conn.

•

JOHN M. WHITAKER, RKO vice-president, will entrain from Hollywood for New York tomorrow.

$6,000,000 Annual U.S. Brazil Gross

"Approximately 300 films of U. S. distributors are exhibited annually in Brazil, grossing between $5,000,000 and $6,000,000," Sigwart Kusiel, Columbia general manager, stated here yesterday. Brazil today has 1,500 theatres, with an average capacity of 800 to 900, Kusiel said.

The Columbia representative is making his second trip to New York this year, and will be here about three weeks.

He declared that first run business in Brazil's key cities is 50 to 60 per cent over pre-war grosses. Brazilian law makes the showing of one reel of a Brazilian newsreel or educational picture obligatory in all theatres in every show daily. Also, Brazilian theatres must show at least one home-made feature once a year. Brazil only produced eight features last year, at a cost of $20,000 each, but the country made 100 newsreels.

All U. S. films exhibited have superimposed titles; dubbing has not proved successful. American films occupy from 90 to 95 per cent of all screen time. Argentine films are preferred to Mexican. Since the outbreak of the war about 50 theatres have been erected and during the next two years 20 more are planned. American companies employ about 850 in Brazil, of whom two-thirds must be Brazilian, and payrolls must be in the same ratio.

Edward A. Golden to Hollywood Tomorrow

Edward A. Golden of Golden Productions will leave here tomorrow for the Coast after six months in New York. Golden will make his headquarters in Hollywood. The company is committed to produce three pictures in two years at a cost of $3,000,000.

Sam Dembow, Jr., will remain in New York in charge of the company's Eastern operations. No release for the three forthcoming pictures has been set as yet. Golden has been releasing through RKO.

Golden will join his son, Robert Golden on the Coast, where two scripts are in preparation. They are "Breakfast at Sardi's," based on the Coast daytime radio program which topped the MOTION PICTURE DAILY-*Fame* poll in its class, and an adaptation of the Frederick L. Collins book, "FBI in Peace and War."

Calls on Canadians to Renew Legion Pledge

TORONTO, Dec. 13.—Most Rev. J. F. Ryan, bishop of Hamilton, has called on all Roman Catholics to renew the Legion of Decency pledge in Canada.

Parishioners of Roman Catholic Churches in the U. S. renewed their annual Legion of Decency pledge at masses last Sunday.

Platform Trouble Halts Capitol Show

All evening shows at the Capitol Theatre on Broadway were cancelled Tuesday night when mechanical defects in the orchestra platform on stage prevented its lowering after the stage performance and obstructed a clear view of the projection screen. The theatre business office estimated a box office loss of approximately $5,000 as a result of the cancellation.

Wappaus Heads RKO Circuit Selling

Herbert E. Wappaus, manager of the contract department at RKO Radio, was promoted yesterday by general sales manager Robert Mochrie to succeed William M. Horne, as head of national circuit sales, effective with Horne's leaving tomorrow to become Eastern representative for Jack Skirball. Wappaus has been with RKO Radio for 18 years, becoming head of the contract department in April, 1943, when he succeeded Edward Smith, who resigned to enter the Army.

Mochrie also announced the promotion of Irving Cane, supervisor in the contract department, to succeed Wappaus. Cane has been with RKO for 15 years.

Horne's RKO associates will give him a farewell luncheon today at the Hotel Taft, with Mochrie as toastmaster. With RKO for 15 years, Horne has been in the industry since 1914, his first job being with old World Films.

Allied States Hails Crescent Decision

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Describing the divestiture phase of the recent Supreme Court decision in the Crescent Amusement Co. case as "one of the most sweeping ever entered under the Sherman Law," Allied States Association, in a bulletin issued here today voices the opinion that the decision "undoubtedly will be controlling in the pending cases against the Schine and Griffith circuits, which involve similar charges of monopolistic conduct."

The bulletin adds, "The main impact of the decision is on the pending suits against the eight major distributors. Go ahead, Mr. Attorney General, you have the green light!"

British to Make Film Series on War Effort

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The British Minister of Information, Brendan Bracken, questioned today in the House of Commons, announced that preparatory work has begun on a series of films illustrating the recently issued government 'White Paper' describing Britain's war effort, for worldwide distribution.

Coming Events

Through Dec. 31—Extension by theatres of Sixth War Loan special promotions.

Through Dec. 20—Theatres' drive for National War Fund.

Today—Warner Theatres' executive meeting, New York.

Today—WAC 6th War Loan Luncheon for trade press, Monte Carlo, New York.

Dec. 15—Sales Executives Club and Chamber of Commerce dinner for Warner executives, Albany.

Dec. 15—Luncheon of National Conference of Christians and Jews, Hotel Astor, New York.

Dec. 17—Annual Friars' Club Frolic, Imperial Theatre, New York.

Dec. 19—Allied of New Jersey annual Christmas dinner, Ritz Restaurant, Passaic.

Dec. 19—Industry leaders White House conference on "March of Dimes" campaign, Washington.

Dec. 19—Associated Motion Picture Advertisers Christmas party, New York.

Jan. 19—Annual meeting of M-G-M field auditors, Hotel Astor, New York.

Jan. 19—Start of RKO's 1945 Ned Depinet Drive.

Jan. 21-22—Theatre Owners Association of North and South Carolina meeting, Charlotte.

Feb. 2—Press Photographers Association dance and entertainment, Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York.

WPB Authority on Lenses is Unified

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Projection lenses for use in 35 mm. projectors, formerly under limitation order L-267, covering photography and projection equipment accessories and parts, were today transferred by the War Production Board to limitation order L-325, dealing with 35 mm. projection equipment and accessories, which is administered by Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section. It was explained that the transfer will make it unnecessary for manufacturers to deal with two WPB industry divisions in matters relating to booth equipment.

Wilbert Returns to 20th Home Office

Christy Wilbert, former press book editor of 20th Century-Fox, has returned to the company after being honorably discharged from the Navy. His new position will be in the advertising department, under Charles Schlaifer, assistant director of advertising-publicity-exploitation.

Wilbert had been with 20th-Fox for 11 years before entering service.

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Rank-Ealing Deal May Be Limited

Pending deal reportedly on in London between J. Arthur Rank's Eagle-Lion and Ealing Films for the Rank company to take over Ealing distribution may not apply to distribution in the Western Hemisphere, according to informed sources here. If the deal, purportedly being negotiated between Michael Balcon and Reginald Baker of Ealing, and E. T. Carr, Rank representative, should be consummated, Ealing distribution in the U. S., Canada and South America may not be affected, it is understood.

Contract Renewed

Sir Edward Villiers, Ealing sales representative, before returning to London from New York, renewed A. F. E. Corporation's contract until 1945 as exclusive Ealing representative on this Continent. AFE, which is headed by Paul Graetz, will distribute on its own five Ealing films in addition to the current "48 Hours." The five are: "Nine Men," "The Halfway House," "Return to Yesterday," "The Return of the Vikings" and "They Came to a City." Another, "Champagne Charlie," may be distributed either through Ealing or a major distributor. Graetz is re-editing "Halfway House" and "Champagne Charlie for the American market.

Ealing product in Canada is distributed by Esquire Films on a long term deal. Esquire is controlled by Paul Nathanson and Oscar Hanson and is operated separately from Nathanson's Empire-Universal, which handles Rank films in Canada. In South America, AFE has set distribution for Ealing in practically every country.

Result of an Eagle-Lion-Ealing deal would be disbanding of Ealing's distribution organization.

Albany Variety Club Sets 'Canteen' Party

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 13.—As part of the program in connection with the 'proxy premiere' of Warners' "Hollywood Canteen" at the Strand here tomorrow, the local Variety Club will hold a reception for the local and visiting press and other guests.

Among those invited are a group of trade paper representatives, syndicate writers and others who are coming from New York. The press also will be guests at a dinner being given by the Albany Chamber of Commerce and the Albany Federation of Sales Executives at the Ten Eyck Hotel preceding the premiere and a Coast-to-Coast broadcast of the "Double or Nothing" show, also at the Strand.

Century Checks to GI's

Century Circuit will send a Christmas check of $15 to each of its 163 employees now in the Armed Forces. Similar gifts were dispatched to service men on Armistice and Independence Days. The circuit also sends a monthly gift of $3.50 for incidentals. Albert A. Hovell is president.

Screen Navy's 'Lady'

"The Fighting Lady," documentary color film produced by the U. S. Navy, and to be distributed by 20th Century-Fox, will be screened by the company for the press tomorrow at 2:30 P.M.

French Will Be Liberal on Dubbed Film Regulation

Despite a French law requiring films to be dubbed in that country, with the exception of 15 theatres which may use pictures with superimposed titles, a broad interpretation of the law by the film division of the French Ministry of Information will undoubtedly permit the entry of many films dubbed in the U. S. as well as additional sub-titled films, Simon Schiffrin, head of the French Ministry's film division here, discloses.

Schiffrin ascribed this relaxing of the law to two reasons: the impossibility of dubbing in France during the German occupation and the desire of the French for American films now. Conferences are being held between Schiffrin and the distributors on a solution of the problem and a satisfactory answer will be forthcoming very soon, he said.

French production will probably be slow in resuming, Schiffrin added, because not only do the studios face the physical handicaps of a lack of electrical power, but all film personnel must be closely scrutinized to see that they are not "tainted" with any collaborationism. If a picture were permitted to start shooting and the authorities should find the director or actors to be guilty of collaboration, the French public would refuse to patronize the film, he said.

An undeterminate quantity of raw stock has been found in Paris, Schiffrin said, not only in film vaults but also secreted in bank vaults by the Germans as precaution against air raids. The film division in France is now making a survey of the film stockpile to determine whether a portion can be made available to U. S. companies for prints, Schiffrin said Some allocation plan will probably be devised, he said, taking into consideration stock available and production possibilities. Robert Riskin, Office of War Information overseas film bureau chief, is also investigating the stock situation in Paris.

Negotiations are still underway on distribution in the U. S. of 35-40 films held suitable for foreign distribution from among the 200 films made during the German occupation. Transportation, not visas, remains the main obstacle in the way of the return of European managers to France, Schiffrin said.

Theatres Survive Ontario Blizzard

TORONTO, Dec. 13.—Southern Ontario's greatest blizzard on record, striking here harder than in nearby U. S. areas, failed to close theatres, although factories, department stores and schools were dark. Toronto newspapers failed to publish for 24 hours, and traffic was at a standstill for a long period.

Famous Players reported that none of its units cancelled performances, although some operated with skeleton staffs. After people had been snowbound in their homes all day, neighborhood houses were crowded, and some exhibitors pressed patrons into service as ushers. Main highways were blocked for all vehicular transportation, and film shipments were diverted to railway service, with key trains following snowplows on main lines. Some remote theatres were forced to hold over shows but emergency programs stored at key centers were put to use in several locations.

Lasky Offers to Make Life of Billy Rose

Jesse L. Lasky has proposed to Billy Rose that he make a picture based on Rose's life. The film would be the second Lasky production next year.

Lasky would use parts of Rose plays.

SPG Meeting Tonight

Screen Publicists Guild, Local No. 114, will meet tonight at the Park Central Hotel to nominate officers for 1945. The Guild's annual election will be held next month. Also on the agenda is the presentation of a report from SPG's council concerning union problems, and a discussion of the possibilities of amalgamation with Local No. 1 of the UOPWA.

Republic, 306 Meet On Projectionists

Negotiations started here yesterday between Republic and IATSE New York Projectionists Local No. 306 over the dispute involving unionization of the company's home office projectionists. Participating in yesterday's conference, held at the office of Herman Gelber, president of 306, were: Walter L. Titus, Jr., Republic vice-president; R. Kenneth Mackenzie and Joseph McMahon, counsel for the company, and Gelber, and Nathan Frankel and Herbert Schrank, of counsel for the union. Another meeting is scheduled to be held today, also at Gelber's office.

The union has served notice on affiliated circuits in New York that union projectionists have been instructed not to handle Republic pictures, starting next Monday, unless the company's projectionists are organized. Republic, the union claimed, is the only company that has failed to enter into a contract with 306 for home office projectionists.

Republic Exchange Help Favors IATSE

Office employes in Republic's New York exchange voted to retain IATSE Local F-51 as their collective bargaining agent, in a State Labor Relations Board election held here yesterday. The Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, CIO, challenged the 'IA' local's representation and the new election was held. The 'IA' had previously represented the workers.

Ease British Blackout

Blackout restrictions have been eased at Dover, Folkestone, Hythe, New Romney, Lydd and several other English coastal towns for the first time since the war started, according to press dispatches from London.

Teddington Is Sole Victim of Bombs

Despite the severe bombing of the London area, where the bulk of British studios is concentrated, Warners' Teddington studio, still is the only one completely removed from the production scene by enemy action, Sydney Howell, technical adviser for the J. Arthur Rank group of producers, reveals here. Howell was here since October, from London, making a survey of American studio technical developments, with special emphasis on cameras, for Rank's Denham and Pinewood studios.

New Camera equipment in England at present, Howell said, is for the exclusive use of the Armed Forces, with studios forced to use equipment made before the war. British production has been slowed by the use of this old equipment, much of it obsolete. The loss of numerous technicians to the Armed Forces has also hurt, he said.

Howell was impressed with the 'thoroughness' of American studios which he visited on a trip to the Coast. There have been no great changes incorporated in American studio equipment since the war, Howell said. He sees the elimination of special color cameras in the future and the substitution of a standard camera which will be adapted to color work.

Hitchcock May Enter Independent Ranks

Alfred Hitchcock, who recently signed a five-year contract with David O. Selznick to direct one picture a year for Vanguard, with an option to make one outside film annually, may go into independent production. Hitchcock recently returned from London where he did some film work for the British Ministry of Information.

His new contract with Selznick becomes effective in Nov., 1945, but he will make his first outside film before that, he said. "The big problem with independent production is manpower, the procurement of players," Hitchcock added.

MGM Testimonial Lunch

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 13.—One hundred local exhibitors will attend an M-G-M luncheon tomorrow at the Hotel Utah for Sam J. Gardner, who will leave here to become Los Angeles manager, and Carl Nedley, former Omaha salesman, who will succeed him as local branch manager. George A. Hickey, Western sales manager, and Gardner, will leave here for the Coast over the weekend.

'Tokyo' Has 175 Dates

M-G-M has 175 first-run dates for "Thirty Seconds Over Toyko," of which 110 will be during New Year's week. All are one-week engagements; the production is being sold separately as a special.

Ramon Back with RKO

Mark Ramon, former RKO salesman in St. Louis is in New York, following his honorable discharge from the Army, and Ramon is awaiting an assignment from Phil Reisman, in charge of foreign distribution, to a foreign post.

Dick POWELL • Claire T

Farrell

OTTO KRUGER • MIKE MAZURKI • MILE

SHE'S GOT MURDER IN HER HEART!
An amazingly NEW Dick Powell—tough...rough... terrific!...Haunted by a lovely face, hunted for another's crime...in a NEW kind of murder mystery!
REVOR • Anne SHIRLEY
My Lovely
MANDER • DOUGLAS WALTON • DON DOUGLAS
RKO RADIO PICTURES

SLASHING THEIR R

GOING MY WAY

STORY OF DR

That "Frenchman" has actually topped one or more of these great hits in every one of its eight great pre-release tests at the

Boston Metropolitan . . United Artists, Detroit
New York Rivoli . . . . . New Orleans Saenger
San Francisco Fox . . . St. Louis Ambassador
Newman, Kansas City . . . . . Atlanta Fox

Completing the proof that the greatest show for Holiday Week—or any week—is

Paramount's Technicolor

"FRENCHMAN'S C

JOAN FONTAINE • ARTURO DE CORDOVA in "FRENCHMAN'S CREEK"
A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION • with Basil Rathbone • Nigel Bruce
Cecil Kellaway • Ralph Forbes • Harald Ramond • B. G. DeSYLVA, Executive
Producer • Associate Producer David Lewis • Screen Play by Talbot Jennings
From the Novel by Daphne Du Maurier • Directed by MITCHELL LEISEN

ORDS TO RIBBONS

LADY IN THE DARK

WASSELL

REEK"

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Nov. 18		(Ninth Block) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—112 mins. (501) (Rev. 7/19/44) BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502) (Rev. 8/2/44) MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—90 mins. (504) (Rev. 8/11/44) WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—108 mins. (503) (Rev. 5/14/40) MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—117 mins. (505) (Rev. 8/17/44) KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—100 mins. (506) (Color) (Rev. 8/22/44) MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (507) (Rev. 9/14/44) NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Reissue) Jeannette Mac Donald Nelson Eddy M—106 mins. (508) (Rev. 2/19/35) AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards D—122 mins. (510) (Color) (Rev. 6/27/44) LOST IN A HAREM Abbott and Costello C—89 mins. (509) (Rev. 8/29/44)	WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger D—67 mins. (413) (Rev. 8/14/44)	(Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins. (4432) (Rev. 8/23/44)		(Special Release) THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW (International) E. G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey D—99 mins. (582) (Rev. 10/10/44)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins. (530) (Rev. 8/2/44)		RECKLESS AGE Gloria Jean Judy Clark Jack Gilford Delta Rhythm Boys D—63 mins. (9029) (Rev. 8/41/44)	
Nov. 25			SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore O—(461)	(Second Block) FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Color) Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova D—113 mins. (4408) (Rev. 9/20/44) MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds D—84 mins. (4410) (Rev. 10/18/44) THE MAN IN HALF-MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker D—92 mins. (4407) (Rev. 10/17/44) AND NOW TOMORROW Loretta Young Alan Ladd D—85 mins. (4406) (Rev. 10/17/44) ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker C—76 mins. (4409) (Rev. 10/18/44)		FACES IN THE FOG Jane Withers D—71 mins. (404) (Rev. 10/25/44) FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA Smiley Burnette O—55 mins. (453) (Rev. 12/7/44) BRAZIL Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce M—91 mins. (405) (Rev. 10/23/44)	(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN (International) Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (Rev. 8/1/44)		3 IS A FAMILY Charlie Ruggles Helen Broderick C—80 mins. (Rev. 11/24/44)	ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Charles Korvin Ella Raines D—72 mins. (9018) (Rev. 11/30/44)	
Dec. 2	SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks D—69 mins. (6032) (Rev. 12/12/44)		CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom C (421)		ROGUES GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond C—60 mins.		(First Block) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505) (Rev. 9/21/44)			MURDER IN The BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook John Litel D—61 mins. (9034) (Rev. 11/16/44)	THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Jane Wyman Jack Carson C—102 mins. (407) (Rev. 9/30/44)
Dec. 9	TAHITI NIGHTS Dave O'Brien Carole Mathews C		SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson D—68 mins. (416) (Rev. 10/4/44)		OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—57 mins. THE TOWN WENT WILD Freddie Bartholomew Jimmy Lydon D—80 mins. (Rev.11/13/44)	RED RIVER VALLEY (Reissue) Gene Autry O—57 mins. (3308) (Rev. 12/15/41)	NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501) (Rev. 10/2/44) GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins. (504) (Rev. 9/25/44) TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne O—87 mins. (503) (Rev. 9/26/44) THE MASTER RACE George Couloris D—96 mins. (502) (Rev. 8/21/44)	(Fourth Block) (Nov. Release) LAURA Gene Tierney D—88 mins. (509) (Rev. 10/11/44) SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Michael O'Shea M—87 mins. (510) (Rev. 11/1/44)	GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy D—122 mins. (Rev.12/4/44)	THE OLD TEXAS TRAIL Rod Cameron Fuzzy Knight O—60 mins. HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Jr. C—64 mins. (9031) (Rev. 11/24/44)	
Dec. 16	TOGETHER AGAIN Irene Dunne Charles Boyer Charles Coburn C—100 mins. (6003) (Rev. 11/3/44)		ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—76 mins. (403) (Rev. 10/16/44)							MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Grace McDonald Bob Crosby M—63 mins. (Rev. 12/5/44)	
Dec. 23	DANCING IN MANHATTAN Fred Brady Jeff Donnell C—(6038)		BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids D—62 mins. (409) (Rev. 11/16/44)		CASTLE OF CRIMES (British) Keneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall D—60 mins.		(Second Block) EXPERIMENT PERILOUS Hedy Lamarr George Brent D—91 mins. (510) (Rev. 12/6/44) FAREWELL MY LOVELY Anne Shirley Dick Powell D—95 mins. (508) (Rev. 12/6/44) GIRL RUSH C—65 mins (506) (Rev. 10/25/44) NEVADA O—62 mins. (509) (Rev. 12/11/44) THE FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD D—67 mins. (507) (Rev. 12/5/44)			DESTINY Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald D—65 mins. (Rev. 12/7/44)	
Dec. 30	LET'S GO STEADY Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser C		NAVAJO TRAILS Johnny Mack Brown O—(454)	(Third Block) HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts M—99 mins. (4411)	THE WHISPERING SKULL (Texas Rangers) O	SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake 55 mins.—O (3316)		(Fifth Block) (Dec. Release) WINGED VICTORY Edmond O'Brien Jeanne Crain D—130 min. (512) (Rev. 11/22/44)	TOMORROW THE WORLD Frederic March Betty Field D	CAN'T HELP SINGING (Color) Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff M	
Jan. 6	YOUTH ON TRIAL Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair D		ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Rick Vallin D—67 mins. (414) (Rev.12/5/44)	DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks D—62 mins. (4412)	HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay D			SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER Anne Baxter John Hodiak D—86 mins. (513) (Rev. 12/6/44)	I'LL BE SEEING YOU Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten D	NIGHT CLUB GIRL Vivian Austin Edward Norris M—60 mins. (Rev. 12/8/44)	HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN All-Star Cast M—123 mins. (409) (Rev. 12/5/44)
Jan. 13	EADIE WAS A LADY Joe Besser Hal MacIntyre and Orchestra C		ADVENTURES Of KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker D—63 mins. (420) (Rev. 12/8/44)	FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Ingrid Bergman Gary Cooper (Color) D—158 mins. (4413) (Rev. 7/15/43)			(Special) THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE (Goldwyn) Bob Hope Virginia Mayo (Color) C—94 mins. (551) (Rev. 10/11/44)		MR. EMMANUEL (British) Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt D—100 mins.	SHE GETS HER MAN Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol C	
Jan. 20	I LOVE A MYSTERY Jim Bannon Barton Yarborough Nina Foch D	(Special Release) 30 SECONDS OVER TOKYO Spencer Tracy Van Johnson D—138 mins. (Rev. 11/14/44)	JADE MASK Sidney Toler D—66 mins. (417)	PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray C—90 mins. (4414)	THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge D		(Special Release) BELLE OF THE YUKON (International) Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Bob Burns C—84 mins. (583) (Color) (Rev. 11/29/44)	(Sixth Block) (Jan. Release) KEYS OF THE KINGDOM Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell D—137 mins. (514) (Rev. 12/13/44) THE FIGHTING LADY (color) (documentary) (515) THE WAY AHEAD (British) David Niven Raymond Huntley D—115 mins. (511)		UNDER WESTERN SKIES Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Sr. Leo Carillo O	TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—100 mins. (410) (Rev. 10/11/44)
Jan. 27			THEY SHALL HAVE FAITH Gale Storm C. Aubrey Smith D—83 mins. (Rev. 12/13/44)	DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—64 mins. (4415)	FOG ISLAND Lionel Atwill George Zucco D					THE SUSPECT Charles Laughton Ella Raines D	

(Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama

Business Up 10-15% In South Africa

Although theatre business in South Africa has dropped off somewhat from the peak hit in late 1942 and early 1943 when the North African campaign was on, and huge troop convoys swelled attendance, it still remains ten to 15 per cent higher than in pre-war days in the larger centers such as Johannesburg and Cape Town, Jerome P. Sutten, recently named manager for that territory by Warners, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY here.

"Many of the gains will probably be retained after the war," Sutten said, secured by an industrial expansion and the popularity of U. S. films there, with some British pictures also shown.

Although there is no production of features there, a weekly newsreel is produced by African Film Productions, titled "African Mirror." Some documentaries for the government are also produced.

Rebuilt Alton Reopens

ALTON, Ia., Dec. 13.—The Alton Theatre has reopened here. Destroyed by fire last Winter, it was completely rebuilt by John Van Gronigen, owner. It seats 450 and and is modern in every detail.

Monogram Signs TSC

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7. — Theatres Service Co., with headquarters in New Orelans, operating 96 houses in Louisiana and Mississippi, has bought the entire Monogram product for 1944-45, according to Steve Broidy, general sales manager.

"Can't Help Singing"

(*Continued from page* 1)

their own argument. It is not strength of story which makes "Can't Help Singing." Miss Durbin runs away from Washington in open pursuit of an Army officer because she thinks she loves him. After meeting Robert Paige, and after a while, she knows otherwise. Their misunderstandings and the delicious comedy embroilments which are built out of the relationship ahead of their romantic climax are about all that happen. But what has been done in tying various ends into a compact and well-contained unit and how the excellent musicianship of Jerome Kern and E. Y. Harburg has been employed in this process—these actually provide the answer. It could not have been easy, but it is eminently and outstandingly successful.

It is very much in order, consequently, to give full acknowledgment of the craftsmanship of those expert hands behind the scenes who got up on the screen what is to be found in one of the best musicals from Hollywood in moons, and many of them. . . . This acknowledgment begins with the script by Lewis R. Foster and Frank Ryan, who also directed. They developed it from the story by John Klorer and Leo Townsend, who drew upon "The Girl of the Overland Trail," by Samuel J. and Curtis B. Warshawsky. From there, it proceeds up the line to those six numbers by Kern and Harburg, to Ryan for his top-drawer direction, to Frank Shaw at the associate producership controls, to Felix Jackson as the producer guiding all. But the scroll properly must be embracing enough to include the many others who were part and parcel to the results—men like Woody Bredell and W. Howard Greene for their Technicolor photography, John B. Goodman and Robert Clatworthy for their art direction, Russell A. Gausman and Edward R. Robinson for their set decorations, H. J. Salter for the musical score and direction, and Walter Plunkett for his costuming. There is room for all.

Room, certainly, as well for Miss Durbin's supporting players: Paige, Akim Tamiroff, Leonard Kinskey and, in lesser vein, David Bruce, Ray Collins, Clara Blandick, June Vincent, Andrew Tombes and Thomas Gomez.

Universal has a fortune invested in this attraction. But there's a fortune in it.

Running time, 88 min. "G".* Release date, Dec. 29, 1944.

*"G" denotes general classification.

RED KANN

Mangan on Own

CHICAGO, Dec. 13.—James T. Mangan, for 19 years publicity-advertising director of Mills Novelty Co. here, parent organization of Soundies, has resigned to open a local public relations office.

RKO Promotes Ford

ATLANTA, Dec. 13.—Fred Ford, former field representative for RKO at Memphis and New Orleans, has been named field superintendent of the Southern territory with headquarters here.

Pittsburgh Is Off, Only 'Again' At Par

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 13.—Bad weather and pre-holiday shopping took a heavy toll of receipts from Pittsburgh theaters this week. Highest estimate was $17,500 for "The Very Thought of You," at the Penn. "Together Again" brought an estimated $4,500 to the Senator, the only theatre to go over par.

Estimated receipts for the week ending December 11-15:

"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)
FULTON—(1,700) (55c-96c-$1.10) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,500).

"The Sign of the Cross" (Para.)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).

"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $21,700).

"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000).

"Together Again" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,000).

"None but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,450).

Rosenar Has 'Victory'

Herbert Rosenar Co., Los Angeles, will distribute Scoop Productions' "One Inch from Victory," except in New York and Philadelphia, where the distributor will be Hoffberg Productions and J. Jaslow, respectively, it was announced here recently by Robert Weil, head of Scoop.

A dazzling number audiences will long remember—the spectacular "Deep Purple" variety routine, featuring glamorous, exciting Vera Hruba Ralston in Republic's sparkling ice-travaganza, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE."

ADVT.

GI's in Philippines, Germany Get Films

American fighting men in Germany have been seeing Hollywood motion pictures since Sept. 14, and troops in the Philippines have been shown films regularly since Nov. 9, it has been revealed here by the Army Pictorial Service.

The first showing in Germany took place three days after our troops had crossed the Reich borders; the film was "Meet the People." Pvt. John Bakos and T/S Ward A. McHugh were the projectionists.

Lynn Farnol Rejoins Goldwyn on Jan. 1

(*Continued from page* 1)

Force, in which he now is a lieutenant colonel.

Farnol received his commission and joined the Air Force about three and one-half years ago. For the past two years he has been attached to the Eighth Fighter Command with headquarters in England. He has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. Prior to entering the Army Farnol was for several years advertising and publicity director of United Artists and resigned that post to open his own publicity-advertising office in New York.

Fishman Joins Warners

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—George Fishman of United Artists will join the Warner exchange on Monday as promotion chief here and in Washington.

Picture Pioneers Induct 67 New Members Here

(*Continued from page* 1)

members. Some good-natured heckling was provided by Luke Barnett, father of screen star Vince Barnett, posing as a Greek exhibitor from Pittsburgh. Sam Dembow, Jr., co-chairman of the dinner committee, with George Dembow, opened the meeting which was then turned over to Jack Cohn, house manager, who presided.

The inductees were: Salem E. Applegate, Henry R. Arias, John Balaban, Joseph Blumenfeld, Harold Blumenthal, Frank M. Boucher, James M. Brennan, Joseph DeFrenes, Arthur A. DeTitta, Joseph G. Dombroff, Joseph D. Egan, Gus S. Eyssell, Joseph J. Felder, Nathan Furst, Stanley W. Hand, John Hans, Jean Hersholt, A. Higginbotham, Karl Hoblitzelle, M. B. Horwitz, Earl J. Hudson, William Jenkins, J. S. Jossey, Myron J. Kallet, Morris J. Kandel, Joseph I. Katsh, David Kay, John R. Keegan, H. F. Kincey, Mori Krushen, Edwin G. Lauder, Jr., Sidney B. Lust, John Manheimer, Max Marcin, Thomas H. Martell, William Massce, Vincent R. McFaul, Paul C. Mooney, Sr., Joseph Moskowitz, Paul Moss, James A. Mulvey, Thomas Murray, Harry L. Nace, Harry Olshan, Harry A. Post, Arthur M. Rapf.

Also: Charles M. Reagan, Raymond Rhonheimer, Samuel Rhonheimer, Ernest V. Richards, Jr., J. E. Robin, Max Rothstein, Michael Ruden, Edward N. Rugoff, Albert L. Selig, Rudolph Sanders, William A. Shirley, Andrew W. Smith, Jr., George A. Smith, Meyer Solomon, Eugene Spitz, Harry J. Takiff, Leslie E. Thompson, Robert Ungerfeld, William S. Wilder, Capt. Fred Wingard and Harold E. Wondsel.

Among those on the dais were: Barney Balaban, Adolph Zukor, Spyros Skouras, Jesse Lasky, Herman Robbins, O'Donnell, Gregory Ratoff, M. A. Lightman, Abe Montague, besides the non-inductees previously mentioned.

The committee on arrangements for the induction consisted of Hal Horde, Gilbert Josephson, Jack Levin and Joseph Hornstein.

Monogram Signs W-K

Paramount-Wilby-Kincey Theatres, operating 164 houses in North and South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Alabama and Tennessee, has signed for the entire Monogram program for 1944-45.

OWI Asks Industry For Pacific Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

as used in Europe," he said, with films to be specially selected for the liberated Pacific areas. The films, which will not necessarily be the same as those chosen for the liberated areas of Europe, will be subtitled in appropriate languages, when necessary, Lober said. Specially selected OWI documentaries are also being prepared, Lober added, and have been dubbed in Chinese and Japanese so far.

A special unit within the overseas branch of the OWI is being formed to carry out film distribution in the Far Eastern theatre, as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 10 and Nov. 29, with Michael Burgher and Robert Perkins having been named. Burgher was formerly in Columbia's foreign department and Perkins was previously with Universal.

Miss Van Upp Head Columbia Producer

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion were announced by Columbia last week.

Miss Van Upp has been with Columbia two years. She wrote and produced "Together Again," wrote "The Impatient Years" and was associate producer of that film, and also wrote "Cover Girl" and the forthcoming "Some Call It Love." Her first post in the industry, in 1922, was as assistant casting director for Brunton Studios.

Mendelson Heads Club

OMAHA, Dec. 13.—Leon Mendelson has been named president of the Warner Club here, succeeding William Wink. Other new officers are: Peggy Bragg, Jean McFadden and Elizabeth Roberts, vice presidents; Marian Blake, secretary; Milton Swift, treasurer.

21 WORDS THAT SPELL CHRISTMAS BOND SALES!

•

PUT THIS MESSAGE IN YOUR 6th WAR LOAN LOBBY

"The War Bonds You buy this Christmas Speed the Christmas when you may say— Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men"

•

Ross Federal Service, Inc.

Hollywood

By THALLA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 13

WALTER LANTZ, cartoon producer, and Edward Nassour, Los Angeles manufacturer, declare they have developed a new process of cartoon production which employs miniature clay figures of human beings. The two inventors are organizing a company to be known as Lantz-Nassour Humanettes, and plan a series of four-reel 'featurettes' to introduce the new technique.

•

David O. Selznick has signed Lionel Barrymore to co-star with Jennifer Jones and Gregory Peck in his forthcoming color Western, "Duel in the Sun." . . . Louis Harris has been assigned by Paramount to produce "Sombrero," a musical with a South American locale. . . . Richard Crane has been assigned an important role in "First, Last and Always," now in work at 20th Century-Fox.

•

Danny Dare has been assigned to produce "Our Hearts Were Growing Up", for Paramount. Brian Donlevy will have one of the stellar roles. . . . Monogram has purchased an original by Bert Horswell, titled "Kelly Starts a Riot," and scheduled it as a sequel to the recently completed "There Goes Kelly." Lindsley Parsons will produce . . . Glenn Ford, having been honorably discharged from the Marine Corps, will return to Columbia to fulfill his contract . . . Universal has exercised its option on the services of Susanna Foster.

•

One of the first major productions to get under way at M-G-M in 1945 will be "The Harvey Girls," color musical to star Judy Garland, Ann Sothern, John Hodiak and Edward Arnold. . . . Jack Haley is to co-star with Joan Davis in RKO's "George White's Scandals of 1945."

•

The next picture which the King Brothers will make for Monogram is titled "Murder at the Track." Maurice King is currently at work on the screenplay. . . . Max Davidson, star of silent days, has been signed by Columbia for a spot in "A Thousand and One Nights." . . . 20th Century-Fox has lifted the options of Vincent Price, Roddy McDowall, Hazel Dawn and Betty Jane Graham.

•

Western star Dave O'Brien gets another straight dramatic role with his assignment by PRC to the lead in "Fire Patrol." Alexander-Stern production. . . . Lee Satterfield, now in the Navy, has been signed to a postwar contract by Paramount. . . . Ann Blyth has been signed for one of the top dramatic roles in "Mildred Pierce," now shooting at Warners. . . . Chili Williams, Rosemary LaPlanche and Virginia Belmont have been added to the cast of RKO's "Johnny Angel."

•

Elliott Paul, novelist, will write the original story for "Paris Canteen," which Sol Lesser plans as a sequel to "Stage Door Canteen." . . . Oscar Boetticher is directing "Out of the Fog," a spy yarn at Columbia, with Nina Foch, William Wright and Otto Kruger heading the cast. . . . The same studio has named Will Jason to direct "Ten Cents a Dance."

$26,000 Gross For 'Woman' Well Over Par

CHICAGO, Dec. 13.—A blizzard that started early Sunday, plus Christmas shopping, are cutting into Loop grosses this week. "The Woman in the Window" had an early start at the Palace and is climbing into the lead with a comparatively great $26,000, while "The Princess and the Pirate" held up well at the Woods in its third week, to show a fine $22,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 14:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (80c-$1.10) 8th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: 35c-95c scale: $11,400).
"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
CHICAGO — (3,850) (55c-85c-95c). On stage: Artie Shaw and his orchestra. Gross: $53,000. (Average: $51,500).
"End of the Road" (Rep.)
DOWNTOWN—(1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c). On stage: Billy Eckstine and his orchestra. Gross: $14,000.
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,100).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"My Pal Wolf" (RKO) 2nd Loop week
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-65c-85c-95c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,100).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c) 2nd Loop run. On stage: Art Kassel and his orchestra, and Marion Hutton. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $24,000).
"The Woman in the Window" (RKO)
"My Gal Loves Music" (Univ.)
PALACE—(2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 8th week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Kismet" (M-G-M) 1 day, 2nd week
"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M) 6 days
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $10,000).

'You' and 'Mountain' Top Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 13.—All houses here are experiencing a pre-Christmas slump. The Indiana, showing "The Very Thought of You" and "Dark Mountain," expects to gross $11,000 to top local receipts.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 12-14:

"None but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,800).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,600).
"Scatterbrain" (Rep.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Stage show. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
"Secret Command" (Col.)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (35c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
"The Girl Who Dared" (Rep.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,900).

Two New Incorporations

ALBANY, Dec. 13.—Two new incorporations are reported here: Capitol Amusement Co., with directors Paul Grainsky, attorney Harry G. Kosch, New York, and Seymour Londner; and Don Becker Productions, which has as director, Harry Lewis, Robert C. Richter and Cecelia Edelman, 1501 Broadway, New York.

New Post-War Building Is Set for San Francisco

(Continued from page 1)

war in the statement of S. H. Emmick, president of Golden Gate Theatres, who said that he has blue-printed three new houses in this area, including a 1,200 seater here. One of these, Emmick said, is planned for Millbrae, which is down the Peninsula, and the other is in San Bruno, which is a few miles south of San Francisco.

Emmick believes that there are plenty of new locations in outlying communities to be tapped during the post-war, when the lifting of restrictions will permit building.

The T. and D. circuit is also reported to be construction-minded and already has in view a new job for Redding.

Regarding the possibility of new construction here, one operator spoke of San Francisco as being overseated, adding that when the present attendance dwindles, following the exodus of war workers and military and naval personnel, the city will settle down to its pre-war population of around 650,000 and the present number of houses in town, therefore, will be more than sufficient.

Fox-West Coast Theatres, which operates five first-run houses downtown, are all set to go after the war. B. V. Sturdivant, division manager of the circuit, says that post-war plans include remodeling and providing new equipment for all five theatres. He estimated that $200,000 will be spent in putting the houses in shape.

While picking new sites for the future, operators here are not heedless of the present equipment situation. Biggest headache, they say, is keeping seats in repair. Springs and new seats are badly needed; padding is being used to bolster upholstery. Majority of the houses have not been refurbished in eight or ten years. Interior and exterior paint jobs are no problem, although labor is scarce.

Although manufacturers have not been able to supply new equipment, operators generally are not concerned with a breakdown; they say there are enough parts on hand in warehouses to go around. Nevertheless, some say the pinch for parts and supplies is growing tighter, as equipment in service grows older.

War Effort First for FWC, Skouras Says

(Continued from page 1)

double, if possible, our home front contributions to victory. Our theatres have grown far beyond the function of just furnishing entertainment. Our record of civic and war activities for the past three years has shown us the great wealth of public service we can perform for the community and the nation," he added.

Skouras disclosed that $2,211,050 has been contributed through Fox West Coast and National Theatres to the March of Dimes, Army and Navy Relief, United Nations Relief, United Service Organization and other causes since Pearl Harbor. He also revealed that $209,000,000 in war bonds have been sold through the company's theatres.

Mexicans May Hit 83 Films in 1944

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 13.—This year is expected to be a banner one for Mexican production, despite handicaps of suspended production and the insufficiency of raw stock. A total of 83 films is foreseen.

This would be the highest since the Mexican industry was put on a modern footing, in 1930, and compares with 65 produced last year. Some quarters anticipate an increase in 1945's quota of raw stock, owing to the efforts on the industry's behalf by the U. S. Office of the Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs. Mexico presently is allotted 45,000,000 feet yearly.

Crawford Heads B-49

ATLANTA, Dec. 13.—Oscar Crawford has been elected president of Local B-49, Film Exchange Union, AFL. Others named were: William Klements, vice president; Stella Defoor, business agent; Edna Thwaits, sergeant-at-arms.

Hirliman Gets 3 Options

International Theatrical and Television Corp. has acquired options on three plays, it was reported here yesterday by George A. Hirliman, recently returned from a trip to the Coast. The options are for: "Jane Addams of Hull House," "Paradise Road" and "Dr. Mesmer."

RCA Retirement Plan Effective

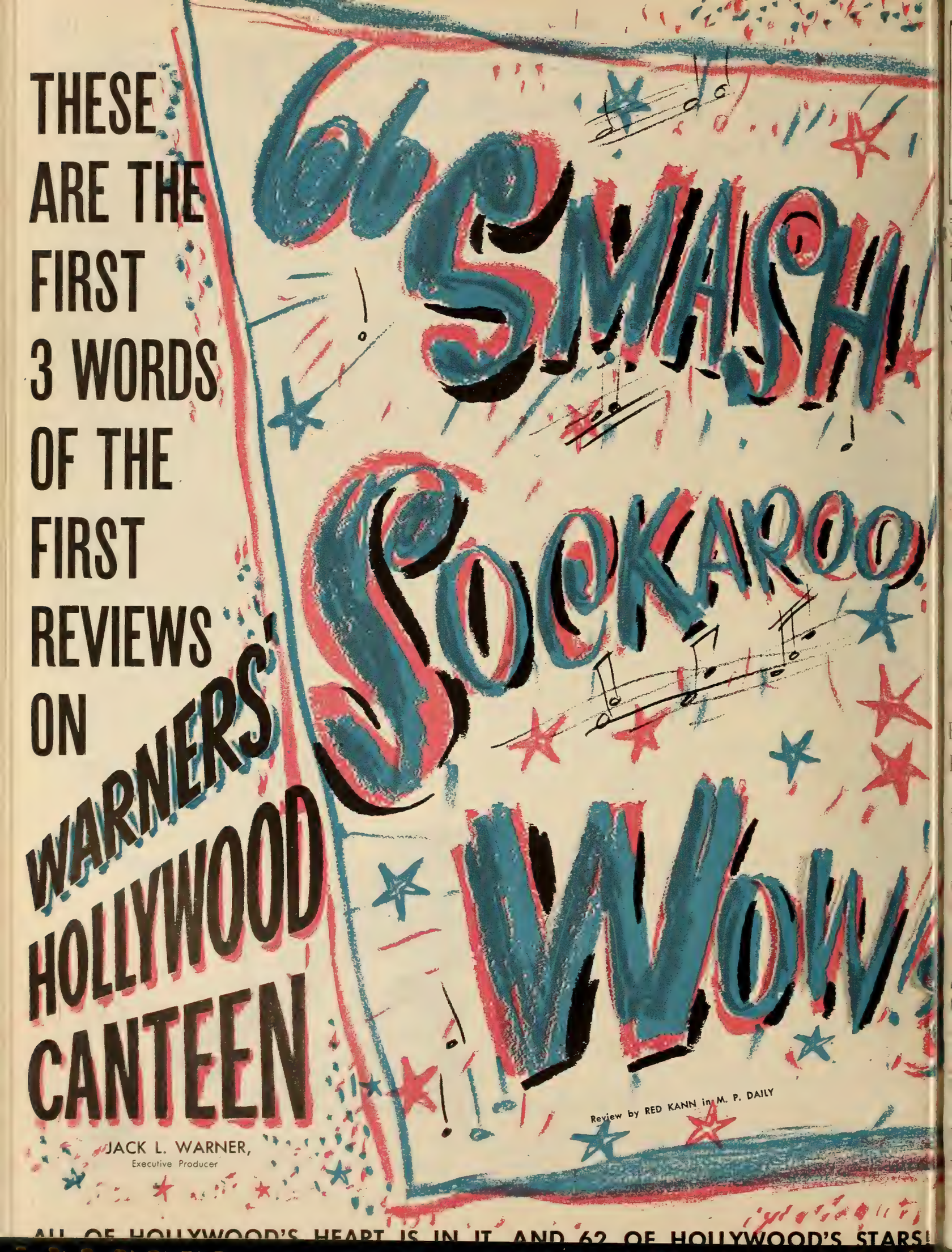
(Continued from page 1)

old and have completed three years of service. Participation is voluntary. Benefits will start at 65. Pensions are financed entirely by RCA, and amount to three-quarters of one per cent of the first $250 of a member's monthly earnings on Nov. 30, 1944, plus one and one-quarter per cent of earnings in excess of $250, for each year prior to Dec. 1, 1944, up to 20 years, after excluding the first three years, and any service before 25 years of age. There is a contributory annuity, in which employer and employee contribute equally two per cent of the first $35 of weekly pay, plus four per cent of the next $25, plus six per cent in excess of $60 weekly.

The plan, said RCA, will enable long term employees to retire with one-third to one-half pay. In case of death before retirement, the beneficiary will receive the full amount contributed, plus interest at two per cent. On termination of employment, an employee may withdraw his contributions with interest. Annuities will be purchased from the Equitable Life Assurance Society

Saro Heads Film Bank

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 13.—Enrique Saro, for several years a director of the Nacional Financiera, Federal fiscal agency, has been named general manager of the Banco Cinematografico, S.A., the film industry's bank here. He succeeds Carols Garriedo Galvan, now general manager of Films Mundiales.


THESE ARE THE FIRST 3 WORDS OF THE FIRST REVIEWS ON
WARNERS' HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN
JACK L. WARNER,
Executive Producer
66 SMASH
POCKAROO
WOW
Review by RED KANN in M. P. DAILY
ALL OF HOLLYWOOD'S HEART IS IN IT, AND 62 OF HOLLYWOOD'S STARS!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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APPROVE ADVISORS ON FILM TREATIES

Industry Members May Aid State Department, Berge Holds in Ruling

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Department of Justice has cleared the way for participation of members of the industry in any technical or consulting committee the State Department may desire to set up in connection with its projected negotiations with other governments for a treaty for the post-war treatment of motion pictures in international trade.

Such an industry committee, it has been held by Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, chief of the anti-trust division, may agree upon specific recommendations to be made to the treaty negotiators without infringing the anti-trust laws or a ruling by Attorney General Francis Biddle last

(Continued on page 3)

Industry Leaders at NCCJ Meet Today

Thirty-five leaders in the industry will be on the dais today, at a luncheon of the National Conference of Christians and Jews at the Hotel Astor. Among those on the dais will be: Nicholas M. Schenck, William F. Rodgers, Austin C. Keough, Malcolm Kingsberg, Spyros Skouras, Ralph Poucher, Harry Ross, John J. O'Connor, Joseph Bernhard, Herman Robbins, George J. Schaefer, Francis S. Harmon, Harry Brandt, David Weinstock, Leo Brecher, Jules Brulatour, Charles L. O'Reilly, Walter Vincent, James Sauter, Lucy

(Continued on page 3)

Rockefeller Approved By Senate Group

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Nominees to six top State Department posts, including Nelson Rockefeller, head of the office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, and Archibald MacLeish, Librarian of Congress, were given the approval of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today after hearings at which the international trade views of several of the appointees were questioned by committee members.

Rockefeller, one of the three new

(Continued on page 7)

Films in All Schools in 5 Years: MPPDA

No Theatre Competition, Spokesman Advises

By EDWARD SMITH

"Every school in the nation will be showing motion pictures within five years," a spokesman for the MPPDA reports to MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

It was explained that the films will be of an educational nature and not theatrical releases shown in competition with theatres. Up to now many of the educational films have been coming from the Eastman fund, and the special branch at Chicago University, working in cooperation with the Encyclopedia Britannica.

The MPPDA spokesman pointed out that a great influence on the development of the educational film

(Continued on page 7)

Republic, 306 Sign Projectionists' Pact

Republic and IATSE New York Projectionists Local No. 306 have reached an agreement on projectionists for the company's home office projection room here, a joint announcement disclosed, with a union contract, effective Dec. 18, to cover the men. The agreement was reached here yesterday in the offices of Herman Gelber, president of 306.

The new contract is identical to those in effect at home office projection rooms of other companies, a

(Continued on page 6)

Radio Poll Winners Get Scrolls on Air

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 14.—Joan Davis, voted radio's 'Best Comedienne' in the ninth annual MOTION PICTURE DAILY-*Fame* radio poll, was presented with a scroll on her NBC Sealtest program here tonight by Red Kann, Quigley Publications vice-president in Hollywood.

The producers of Lionel Barrymore's CBS "Mayor of the Town," for Noxema Chemical Co., gave Barrymore, voted 'Most Effective Film Player on the Air,' a surprise salute on the program last Saturday night. The first program here to

(Continued on page 6)

Name Bowser FWC Manager

LOS. ANGELES, Dec. 14.—George Bowser has been promoted to the general managership of Fox West Coast Theatres, with supervision over Northern and Southern California divisions, succeeding the late Arch M. Bowles, according to an announcement made here today by Charles Skouras, president.

Andrew J. Krappman, heretofore assistant to Skouras, was named at the same time to succeed Bowser as manager for Southern California, and John Bartero was appointed to succeed the late Charles Buckley as vice-president and chief counsel.

House Group Still Seeks 50% Tax Cut

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Efforts to secure a 50 per cent postwar reduction in taxes will be continued in the coming Congress by the House Republican Postwar Tax Study Committee, it was decided at a meeting of the group today.

The committee is securing the tax views of business, agricultural and labor leaders.

The demand for a 50 per cent cut all along the line is based on the belief of the Republican members of Congress that this can be accomplished by elimination of certain Government spending, an end of deficit financing, and through better governmental fiscal policy.

$500,000,000 Annually At British Box Offices

U. S. films in England are grossing $250,000,000 to $300,000,000 at box offices annually; British films, occupying 15 per cent of the screen time, are grossing around $65,000,000; Government tax of 40 per cent runs an additional $125,000,000 and $150,000,000, making a total box office gross of $435,000,000 to $510,000,000 annually, David Rose, Paramount managing director in England, said here yesterday.

"British studios today are equipped to turn out only about 40 top productions annually," Rose said. He believes soon after the end of the war, England will double that number. "While it is true that England is nationally minded, and will do its best to force its own product on British

(Continued on page 3)

Allied Annual Meet In Columbus Jan. 24

Washington, Dec. 14.—The January meeting of national Allied's board of directors, which will be the annual session for electing officers and members of the executive committee, has been set for the Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus, O., Jan. 24-25.

Plans for the association's functioning during 1945 will be made at this session, arrangements for which are in the hands of P. J. Wood, secretary of the Ohio ITO, Allied affiliate.

Trade Press a Force For Unity: Brandt

"The trade press can be the greatest force in unifying the industry," Harry Brandt, national chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan committee, declared during a testimonial luncheon for the trade press at the Monte Carlo restaurant here yesterday, at which each scribe was presented with the War Activities Committee's Medal of Honor.

Brandt disclosed that the Sixth

(Continued on page 6)

U. S. Gets Four Plans On Wages at Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 14.—A. D. Burford, and C. P. Johnstone, Treasury Department officials who have been here since Nov. 6 studying studio problems with relation to wage stabilization rules, present and pending, will return to Washington Saturday to report their findings and submit four plans proposed by producers, unions

(Continued on page 3)

Reviewed Today

Review of "Practically Yours" appears on page 3.

Personal Mention

NED E. DEPINET, RKO Radio president, is scheduled to arrive from the Coast tomorrow.

•

PIERRE BLANCHAR, former head of the French underground and now head of all film activities in France, was the luncheon guest of JACK L. WARNER at the Burbank studio yesterday.

•

GLENN FORD, former Columbia star, has been honorably discharged from the U. S. Marine Corps due to a physical disability contracted while in service.

•

MERRITT DAVIS, Republic's Southern division manager, has returned to his home territory following a sales conference in Memphis.

•

PETE PENAGAS, general manager of the Alliance Circuit, Chicago, is ill of rheumatic fever in a Chicago hospital.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, has returned to New York from a tour of Southwest exchanges and conferences at the studio.

•

S. A. DOANE, chairman of the Nova Scotia Board of Censors, has been elected president of the Mayflower Curling Club at Halifax.

•

OTTO PREMINGER, 20th-Fox producer-director, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

LT. (J. G.) LEONARD SCHLESINGER, former Warner Theatres executive, is in New York from Washington.

•

R. D. GOLDBERG, head of R. D. Goldberg Theatre Corp., Omaha, is in New York.

•

BUD GRAY, Paramount's exploitation representative in the Southeast, has recovered from a recent illness.

•

JOSEPH PASTERNAK, M-G-M producer, will arrive on the Coast today from New York.

Youngstein to Join Treasury on Jan. 2

Max Youngstein, coordinator of advertising-publicity for the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan Drive, will join the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department, to handle special events and motion picture events, around Jan. 2.

Youngstein was formerly executive assistant to Hal Horne, 20th Century-Fox national advertising, publicity and exploitation head.

'St. Louis' Special

"Meet Me In St. Louis" will be sold separately by M-G-M as a special, and not as part of the company's 10th block, it was disclosed here yesterday by William F. Rodgers, vice president and general sales manager.

Lupe Velez Found Dead in Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 14.—Lupe Velez, 34, formerly Mrs. Johnny Weissmuller, was found dead at her home in Beverly Hills here today. Born in Mexico, the daughter of an opera singer, she had been educated in Texas.

Her professional debut was as a dancer in Mexico City, before she appeared in the "Music Box Revue," in Hollywood. Her first film was Douglas Fairbanks' production of "The Gaucho," and then D. W. Griffith's "Masquerade." She was loaned to Paramount where she appeared opposite Gary Cooper in "The Wolf Song." Since then she has appeared in films for most companies, during the past two years for RKO and Columbia. Of her last six pictures, four have been about adventures of the "Mexican Spitfire."

W. E. Raynor, Film Veteran, Dead at 62

Funeral services will be held at Quenzer Funeral Parlor, Hollis, Queens, at 9:30 a.m., tomorrow, for William E. Raynor, 62, veteran film exploitation and theatre manager, who died Wednesday in General Hospital, Jamaica, Queens, following a long illness. Burial will be from St. Gerard Majella Church, Hollis, at 10:00 a. m.

Raynor was manager of Century Circuit's Floral Theatre, Floral Park, L. I., for several years prior to his death. He entered the industry more than 30 years ago in association with the late George Kleine, for whom he handled the exploitation on such pictures as "Quo Vadis?" and "The Last Days of Pompeii."

WB Zone Managers Hosts to Executives

Warner Theatre zone executives gave a dinner to the circuit's executives last night at the Waldorf-Astoria here, following yesterday's meeting of the managers and film buyers and home office heads.

Joseph Bernhard, general manager of the circuit, and Harry M. Kalmine, assistant general manager, headed the group of New York executives participating in the day's meetings, which also was attended by Clayton Bond, Harry Goldberg, Frank N. Phelps, Sam E. Morris, Abel Vigard, W. Stewart McDonald, Harry Rosenquest, Louis Kaufman, Frank Marshall, Nat Fellman, Herman Maier, Jules Levey, Rudolph Weiss, Frank Cahill, Martin F. Bennett and Dan Triester.

The zone managers and buyers will return home today.

Friendly Joins RKO

Sol Schwartz, general manager of RKO out-of-town theatres, yesterday reported the appointment of Danny Friendly, recently honorably discharged from the Army, to his home office staff. Friendly's appointment takes effect Monday.

Paramount Appeals Cooper Decision

Paramount yesterday filed notice of appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals in New York Federal Court from the decision of Judge Samuel I. Rifkind, made last Nov. 6, dismissing a suit by Paramount against Rialto, Inc., Interstate Theatres Corp. and J. H. Cooper Enterprises, all Colorado corporations. Suit had been dismissed when the court here found that none of the companies did business in New York State, and had been improperly served. Paramount claims that Cooper, head of the companies, does business here, and therefore the corporations had properly been served.

Suit alleges that Cooper broke off a deal with Paramount whereby the film company would have gone into partnership with him in the Colorado enterprises, by forming the companies under his own name, and operating them without Paramount, which claims a 50 per cent interest in the theatre companies. The corporations had been Paramount subsidiaries in bankruptcy.

Sees Television As Film Promotion Aid

Television will be the film industry's "most powerful medium" for exploiting Hollywood and its stars, Klaus Landsberg, director of television station W6XYZ, Hollywood, owned by Television Productions, Paramount affiliate, told a special-events meeting of the American Television Society at the Museum of Modern Art here last night. "A television set in the home will help to quench the thirst of the public for a chance to meet their film idols," Landsberg said.

Other speakers were: Ten Genock assignment editor for Paramount News, and Lew Lehr, 20th Century-Fox Movietone News commentator.

$23,000,000 from Albany Opening

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 14.—Tomorrow has been proclaimed "Albany Civic Day" by Mayor Frank Harris for the "proxy bond premiere" of "Hollywood Canteen" at the Strand Theatre at night. The bond sale will total $23,000,000 with 30 prominent people of Albany buying $100,000 in bonds each to "represent" 30 stars. Two will buy $10,000,000 in bonds to act as proxies for Bette Davis and Errol Flynn.

Horne Is Honored by 75 RKO Associates

William M. Horne, formerly in national circuit sales for RKO Radio, who is joining Jack Skirball as Eastern representative, was honored at a farewell luncheon here yesterday at the Hotel Taft by 75 of his former co-workers at RKO.

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio general sales manager, presided at the luncheon. Horne was presented with a gold pen and pencil set.

NEW YORK THEATRES

HELD OVER 5th WEEK
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647
REPUBLIC THEATER
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
M-G-M's
"NATIONAL VELVET"
MICKEY ROONEY
DONALD CRISP - ELIZABETH TAYLOR
JACKIE JENKINS - REGINALD OWEN
and THE MUSIC HALL'S
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW
First Mezz. Seats reserved IN ADVANCE
Circle 6-4600

STATE
ON SCREEN
RONALD COLMAN
MARLENE DIETRICH
'KISMET'
IN TECHNICOLOR!
IN PERSON
LEE CASTLE
AND ORCH.
EXTRA!
Dean MARTIN

Alan Ladd
Loretta Young
in PARAMOUNT'S
"AND NOW TOMORROW"
In Person
GLEN GRAY
and the
Casa Loma Orchestra
ANDY RUSSELL
JERI SULIAVAN
SON & SONNY
WALLY BROWN and
ALAN CARNEY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
JOHN WAYNE • ELLA RAINES
'TALL in the SADDLE'
WARD BOND • AUDREY LONG

CARMEN MIRANDA · MICHAEL O'SHEA · VIVIAN BLAINE
SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS
in Technicolor!
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St. • Doors Open 10 a.m.
ON THE STAGE
Cafe Society UPTOWN
presents
JIMMY SAVO
MILDRED BAILEY
Extra
PEARL PRIMUS

VICTORIA
Broadway & 46th St.
Doors Open 9:45 A. M. • Continuous
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
WILSON
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
IN TECHNICOLOR

Paramount Signs Pitts

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Ben Pitts circuit in Virginia has bought the Paramount program for the first time in four years.

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Approve Advisors On Film Treaties

(*Continued from page* 1)

July that "the carrying out of consultations should not be construed as implying that members of such committees are authorized to get together and reach an agreed position in anticipation of such consultations."

Berge's opinion was rendered in response to an inquiry regarding the immunity from the anti-trust laws of oil industry representatives who were formulating recommendations for revision of a British-American oil agreement and was seen in Washington as a precedent which would be followed with respect to industry participation in the making of motion picture and other international arrangements.

Voices Warning

"While, of course, it is clear that the meetings and the reaching of an agreement upon the recommendations to be made would not, without more, constitute a violation of the anti-trust laws," Berge wrote, "I think it is important to point out that this opinion on the legality of the activities would not serve to immunize any prior arrangement nor serve to legalize any other or additional arrangement between members of the industry in violation of the anti-trust laws."

Berge emphasized, however, that in situations where groups may be requested to present views to a Government agency, such requests must not foreclose or impede the expression of views by individual members of the group or by others to that agency.

Under Berge's opinion, it is believed that members of the industry would be free, upon request of the State Department, to meet and reach an agreement upon recommendations to be submitted but could not themselves take action to put such recommendations into effect or close the door against the expression by any member of the industry of differing views.

Universal Salesmen Meet in New Orleans

ATLANTA, Dec. 14.—Universal's Memphis and New Orleans salesmen will meet next week in New Orleans to discuss "Can't Help Singing," following a meeting of Atlanta and Charlotte salesmen here tomorrow and Saturday. Attending the local session will be: James W. Frew, Charlotte branch manager; L. R. Brauer, Atlanta branch manager, and salesmen J. W. Bishop, R. T. Good, J. W. Greenleaf, C. T. Jordan, C. W. Clarke, Riley Davis, Fred Mathis and Kenneth Laird.

Harry Graham, Southern district manager, has returned from the Universal sales conference in New York.

McKay of NBC Press Resigns, Joins King

John McKay, manager of the NBC press department for the past three years, yesterday announced his resignation, effective immediately, to join the executive staff of King Features Syndicate.

Sydney H. Eiges, assistant manager of the press department, has been appointed acting manager until the appointment of McKay's successor.

Review

"Practically Yours"

(*Paramount*)

WITH those expert farceurs, Claudette Colbert and Fred MacMurray, contributing their talents to a tale concocted by Norman Krasna, which Mitchell Leisen directed in fitting mood, "Practically Yours" emerges as another successful comedy bearing the Paramount trademark. It will bring joy to exhibitors as well as audiences; it's breezy, has a romantic tinge and is studded with laughs.

Krasna's story hinges on a unique idea: MacMurray, an intrepid fighter pilot, crashdives a Jap carrier into destruction and is presumably lost by his gallant act. He is heard to mention, in his last words, the name of "Peggy" and how he would love to kiss the tip of her nose again. Unknown to a mourning nation, "Peggy" is really "Piggy," his dog; but flashing from obscurity to a national celebrity is Miss Colbert, the "Peggy" who worked beside MacMurray in an office back in his civilian days. When MacMurray turns up very much alive and is sent back to America for a furlough he finds himself in a fix, as a grateful nation naturally expects him to marry the girl whose "name" was uttered in his "last" breath. Miss Colbert, it proves, is only too eager to gratify the nation's desire. That is the cream of Krasna's jest; his only problem is to break down MacMurray's resistance to holy matrimony. How he does it with the capable assistance of two such "characters" as Mikhail Rasumny, an arty photographer, who has an extremely juicy bit in a kissing scene that proves instrumental in breaking down MacMurray's stubbornness, and Robert Benchley, this time as a jurist, is a trade secret. Go and see for yourself.

Leisen is to be commended for his faultless handling of such a brittle idea; he never once permits the skaters to fall through the ice that is exceedingly thin at times. Harry Tugend, associate producer, has provided a well-upholstered production. Other players in a tip-top cast that never lets Leisen, or Krasna, down, are: Gil Lamb, funny as a prim suitor for Miss Colbert's hand; Cecil Kellaway, Rosemary De Camp, excellent in a minor dramatic role; Isabel Randolph, and Jane Frazee, who is spotted to good advantage in a night club delivering with accomplishment Sam Coslow's ballad, "I Knew It Would Be This Way."

Running time, 90 minutes. "G".* Release in Block No. 3.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Senate Votes to Curb Petrillo Interference

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Senate today passed legislation designed to prohibit James Caesar Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians from interfering with the broadcasting of non-commercial cultural or education programs.

The measure, sponsored by Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, was approved by unanimous voice vote during a routine call of the calendar of unopposed bills.

The legislation grew out of Petrillo's cancellation of a broadcast by the National High School Symphony Orchestra.

Red Barber to Head N.Y. Red Cross Drive

Red Barber, radio sports announcer, yesterday was named chairman of the Greater New York Red Cross War Fund Drive for 1945. He led last year's campaign in Brooklyn, where he has reported the career of the Dodgers over the air since 1938.

Industry Leaders at NCCJ Meet Today

(*Continued from page* 1)

Monroe, Marcus Heiman, Martin Quigley, Abel Green, Ben Shlyen, Jack Cohn, Nate Spingold.

Speakers will include: J. Robert Rubin, Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, Comm. Joshua Goldberg, Basil O'Connor, Dr. Daniel A. Poling, Dr. Howard Wilson and Major Gen. Frederick Elwood Uhl. Rubin is chairman of the amusement division.

U. S. Gets Four Plans On Wages at Studios

(*Continued from page* 1)

and organizations for fitting the rules to salary problems peculiar to production.

The officials' canvass of the situation was the outgrowth of a Treasury notification that new rules under consideration would eliminate the prevailing system under which prior approval has not been required for certain types of salary increase. The producers and unions sent representatives to Washington for a conference, which resulted in the investigation now concluded.

Burford told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that the findings were not for publication preceding a Washington decision on them. Queried on reports that he had investigated cases of stars and others establishing independent production units for tax purposes, he said that matter was not in the province of the income tax or wage stabilization divisions.

'SYWA' First Choice Of Young Reviewers

The Young Reviewers of the National Board of Review and the 4-Star Clubs, which are the board's junior field groups, have chosen "Since You Went Away" the best film of the year ending Dec. 1. Other pictures among the top ten selected, in the order named, are: "Going My Way," "Dragon Seed," "Wilson" "The Story of Dr. Wassell," "The Song of Bernadette," "The White Cliffs of Dover," "The Seventh Cross," "Mr. Skeffington" and "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

$500,000,000 from British Theatres, David Rose Reports

(*Continued from page* 1)

screens, and American companies will probably have to take less playing time, I believe that the increase from 19,000,000 to 31,000,000 film-goers in England during the war will continue, and offset any loss of normal revenue from less playing time," Rose stated.

Rose stated that Paramount's current plans for England only involve the making of two films by Hal Wallis, the first of which, "Whenever I Remember," with Ray Milland, as possible star, will begin in June.

He declared that every studio in England is using antiquated equipment and said that wholesale replacements will be necessary after the war ends. No theatre expansion will probably be possible for five years, maybe 10, he declared, because all homes bombed must be rebuilt first.

Miss U.S. Mind

Rose stated that most British producers have failed to grasp the American mind and taste in their film making and had not sufficiently aimed their productions at the U. S. market.

Rose disclosed that J. Arthur Rank had told him that he is determined to make his company the equivalent of an American major, and that he intended to produce 25 top productions during 1945, aimed at the world market. He pointed out that such films as "Caesar and Cleopatra," costing $4,000,000, had to do more than $3,000,000 gross in America to break even.

"English producers, to be successful in the American market, must not only get the American point of view, but must also employ their own full publicity staffs here to promote their films. The average U. S. exhibitor will play a good British film, but he has an apathy toward them now, from past experience, which must be broken, before this market will absorb sizeable British production," Rose concluded.

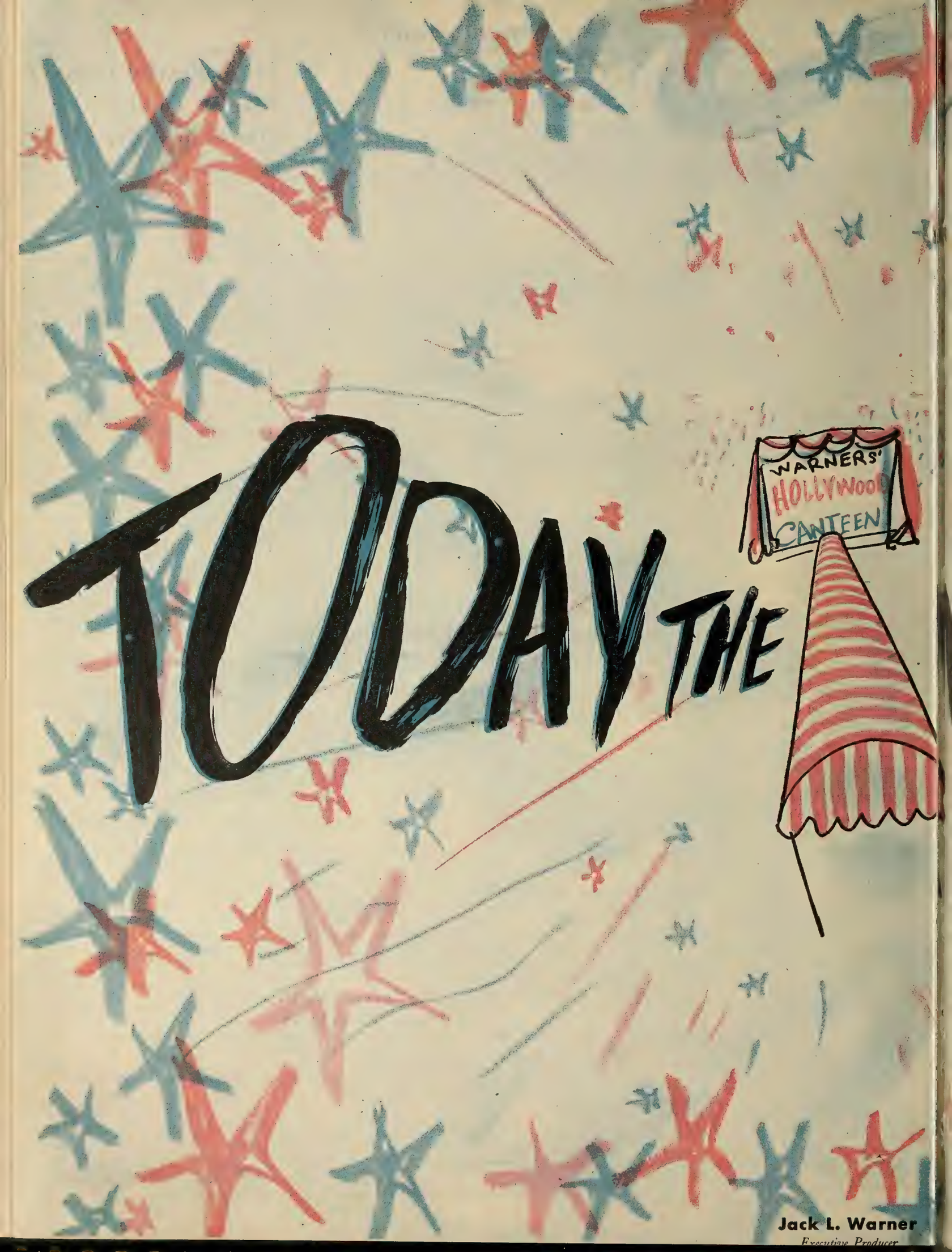
Exhibition Only For Rank in U. S.

"I have no intention of producing films on American soil, but we shall build and buy as many theatres as necessary to give British pictures a good showing," J. Arthur Rank has declared in London, according to press dispatches reaching here. He was reported to have "hinted" that his plans for the development of the Canadian market would give the American industry "enormously increased competition."

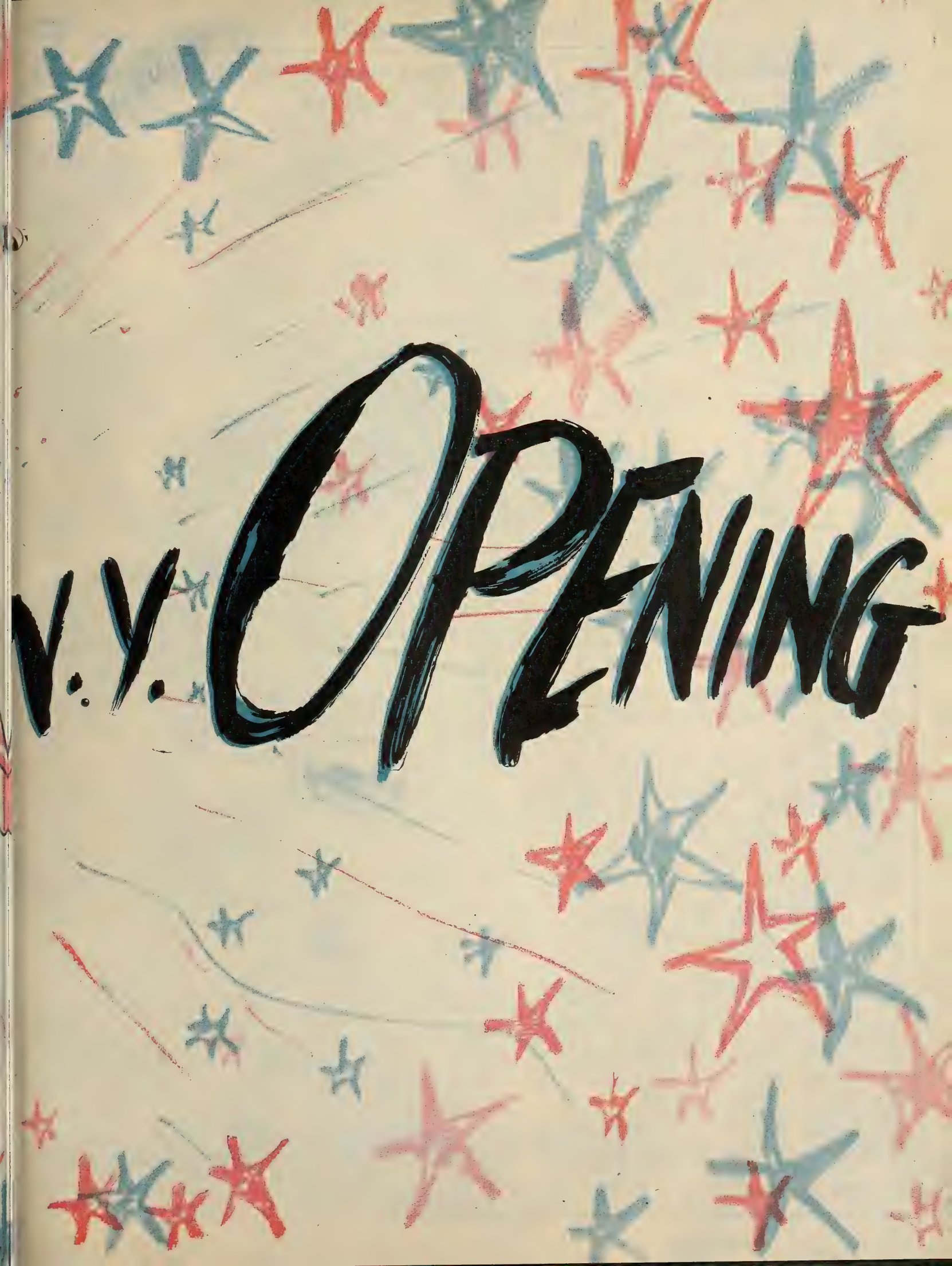
New York and Chicago were mentioned as cities in mind for theatre "showcases" for Rank product at the outset.

Alperson to Coast Today

Edward L. Alperson will leave for the Coast today following completion of negotiations relating to his production of "Black Beauty" for 20th Century-Fox. Upon completion of that film Alperson will go into the production of Somerset Maugham's "Sheppy," which will star Barry Fitzgerald.



Jack L. Warner
Executive Producer


V.Y. OPENING

Shopping, Cold and Snow Hit Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 14.—Heavy Christmas shopping, coupled with cold weather and snow, caused a pinch at nearly all houses here this week. "And Now Tomorrow" linked with "I Love a Soldier" at the Strand was $4,500, in the second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 14:

"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
"She's a Sweetheart" (Col.)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,500).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,500).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
"The Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).
"The Falcon in Hollywood" (RKO)
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. Cab Calloway and his band on the stage. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.)
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $14,000).

'Canteen' Opens Dec. 20

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 14.—Warners' "Hollywood Canteen" will open Dec. 20 at the Hollywood, Downtown and Wiltern Theatres here, it has been reported here by Warners following conferences between Jack L. Warner, executive producer; Charles Einfeld, director of advertising-publicity, and Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager.

'You' and 'Whistler' Dual for $7,100

OMAHA, Dec. 14.—"The Very Thought of You" and "The Mark of Whistler," at the Brandeis Theatre, had a slight edge in comparative box office scores during a weak week here. Heavy snow hurt business at all houses.

Estimated receipts for the week ended December 13-14:

"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"The Mark of Whistler" (Col.)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,100. (Average: $6,400).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
"Dead Man's Eyes" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week for "Kismet," on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $8,400).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $9,800).
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $11,700).

Republic, 306 Sign Projectionists' Pact

(Continued from page 1)

union spokesman said, and provides that any wage scales agreed upon by other companies in present negotiations with 306 should be incorporated in the Republic contract. As a result of the agreement, the union has withdrawn an order previously issued to all local projectionists not to handle Republic product.

Walter L. Titus, Jr., R. K. Mackenzie and Joseph McMahon represented the company in the negotiations, while the union was represented by Gelber, Nathan Frankel and Herbert Schrank.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

announces the following revised dates for

ST. LOUIS TRADE SHOWINGS

(All To Be Held at
S'RENCO PROJECTION ROOM,
3143 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo.)

"MURDER, MY SWEET!"
(Former title, "Farewell My Lovely")
Tuesday, December 19, at 10:00 A. M.

"EXPERIMENT PERILOUS"
Wednesday, December 20, at 1:00 P. M.

"GIRL RUSH"
Wednesday, December 20, at 3:00 P. M.

"NEVADA"
Thursday, December 21, at 11:30 A. M.

"THE FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD"
Friday, December 22, at 11:30 A. M.

'Mrs. Parkington' Is Over by $4,000

SAN FRANCSICO, Dec. 14.—"Mrs. Parkington," $4,000 over par at the St. Francis Theatre, was tops here this week. Of the new films, it looks like a smash run here for "Dark Waters" at the United Artists; the film grossed $15,200 in its first seven days.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 13-15:

"Together Again" (Col.)
"Mark of the Whistler" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $15,000).
"Dark Waters" (UA)
"My Gal Loves Music" (Univ.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $14,500).
"Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $27,000).
"This Is My Affair" (20th-Fox)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $25,000).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"That's My Baby" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,748) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $20,000).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
"One Body Too Many" (Para.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $28,000).
"Frenchmen's Creek" (Para.)
"Sing, Neighbor, Sing" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $13,000).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,000).

Radio Poll Winners Get Scrolls on Air

(Continued from page 1)

feature an air announcement of its winning a classification in the poll was the Blue Network's "Breakfast At Sardi's" which was voted 'Best Daytime Program.'

Columbia Broadcasting, voted the network performing the 'Best Radio News Job in 1944,' in the MOTION PICTURE DAILY-*Fame* poll, will feature a scroll presentation on the "Report to the Nation" program tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. The scroll will be presented to Paul White, CBS director of news broadcasts.

Milton J. Cross, voted 'Best Studio Announcer' in the poll, will be presented with a scroll on the Blue Network's "On Stage Everybody" program, next Wednesday at 7 p.m., instead of on the Metropolitan Opera broadcast tomorrow afternoon, as previously reported. Guy Lombardo and his orchestra, voted 'Best Dance Band,' will be presented with a scroll on the Blue's Chelsea Cigarette program of Dec. 30, instead of Dec. 16.

'U' Promoting New Player Talent

In line with the recent statement by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, that Universal's sales force would work closely with exhibitors in the promotion of new personalities, Universal yesterday sent to exhibitors a 16-page brochure containing stills and biographical sketches of a group of new Universal players.

Included are: Yvonne De Carlo, Charles Korvin, Turhan Bey, Ella Raines, Rod Cameron, Ann Blyth, and David Bruce.

'30 Seconds' Is $20,000 Over In Coast Run

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 14.—"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," major offering in a week of holdovers, grossed $72,500 at the Egyptian-Ritz-Los Angeles trio, where $52,500 is average. "Marriage Is a Private Affair," teamed with "Babes on Swing Street," took $69,500 at the Chinese-Fox-Wilshire-Loew's State-Uptown foursome, where the average is $65,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 14:

"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,900).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,200. (Average: $15,000).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
FOX-WILSHIRE — (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,500).
"Destiny" (Univ.)
"She's a Sweetheart" (Col.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $4,250. (Average: $5,700).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"The Unwritten Code" (Col.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,500).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $29,300).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $37,000. (Average: $25,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
"The Unwritten Code" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,300).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD — (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,900).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,500).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $12,500).
"Marriage Is a Private Affair" (M-G-M)
"Babes on Swing Street" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,500).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,056. (Average: $16,700).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,678. (Average: $18,700).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $9,846. (Average: $15,800).

Trade Press a Force For Unity: Brandt

(Continued from page 1)

War Loan was the first in which the industry attained its quota so early in the drive. He pointed out that the industry has been credited with more "E" bonds sold last Dec. 7 than on any other single day in the history of Treasury bond selling.

Members of the national Sixth drive committee presented Brandt with a clock, for his efforts in the drive. Members of the committee who were present, besides Brandt, included: William F. Crockett, Jay Emanuel, Leon Bamberger, John Hertz, Jr., Max A. Cohen, Walter Brown, Tom Baily and Herb Berg. Lt. Col. Roswell Rosengren, war hero participating in the drive, also was present.

'Rainbow Island' Is $1,000 Over Par

CLEVELAND, Dec. 14.—Theatre attendance perked up some this week, presaging an increase in total downtown business. While no attraction drew large crowds, "And Now Tomorrow," with $17,000 at Loew's State, and "Laura," with $18,500 at Warners' Hippodrome, made satisfactory pre-Christmas showings. "Rainbow Island" was over by $1,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 13:

"None but the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,500).

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $22,100).

"Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,200).

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

"In the Meantime Darling" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Gene Krupa's band and vaudeville. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,400).

"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE — (3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,000).

Lieut. Bell Killed

THOMASVILLE, Ga., Dec. 14.—Lieut. Vereen McNeill Bell, author of the novel "Swamp Water," which was filmed by 20th Century-Fox in 1941, died when his ship, the Gambier Bay, was sunk Oct. 25 in the second battle of the Philippines, according to official notice from the Navy Department, received by his widow here today.

MPPDA Sees Films in All Schools in Five Years

(*Continued from page* 1)

field in the school system will be exerted by returning soldiers, trained by this type of film. It is estimated that 1,500,000 returning veterans will go back to school and many others, being parents, will want their children to have the same opportunity for visual education which they received.

Both the exhibitor and the "old time" teacher fear the innovation, it was stated, but the exhibitor is felt to be wrong because the educational film will never be able to compete with commercial entertainment films. And teachers will be trained to accept the innovation, it is predicted.

At the end of the present war, it is expected provision will be made whereby the Army and Navy will turn their 5,000 projectors which, after reconditioning, will be given to the schools. The MPPDA executive believes that eventually city and state libraries of films will be built up and that public libraries will carry educational films. The distributor-producers will not make educational films, it was stated, but may develop a different type film of feature length and of orientation value. These will be geographic and scientific in nature and self-entertaining and graded for different years so that a whole world of education can be laid before a child. These features will be made by major companies because the producers of educational films alone do not have the necessary facilities, it is said.

Figures on available projectors show that there are 22,839 16mm and 35 mm known projectors, both silent and sound, in 43,208 colleges, high schools, private and public, and elementary schools. The U. S. has a total of 68,277 schools, and a questionnaire sent to these schools by Nathan Golden of the Department of Commerce elicited replies from two-thirds of them.

Breakdown of available figures shows that in 40,000 elementary schools contacted, 25,703 replies were received, with 7,845 of them owning 16 mm. or 35 mm. projectors; 6,602 are serviced with equipment from central distribution points. Of the balance, 11,256 did not own projectors but borrow or rent them. In the higher education fields, 2,935 private high schools, 23,617 public high schools and 1,725 colleges were contacted and 17,500 replied. A total of 8,392 had projectors.

Monogram Texas Change

Monogram has added B. H. Haralson to its sales force at the Dallas exchange. He will cover East Texas territory. Under the new setup, Jerry Frey will travel West Texas, and Don Cole, the Southern area of the State.

Blue Raises Thompson

Jesse Thompson of the sales promotion and advertising staff of Blue Network, has been made promotion manager of the co-operative program department, Fred Smith, director of promotion and advertising, announces.

$18,000 for 'Mrs. Parkington' Tops

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 14.—Mrs. Parkington" got off to a grand start in its first week at the Midland, grossing around $18,000, and this in spite of a heavy snow storm.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 12-15:

"The Trail of the Lonesome Pine" (Para.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,400).

"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,000).

"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 4th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $10,000).

"The Master Race" (RKO)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $10,000).

"The Trail of the Lonesome Pine" (Para.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,560. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600).

"National Barn Dance" (Para.)
"Oh What a Night" (Mono.)
TOWER—(2,000) (35c-60c) 7 days. Stage Show. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $9,400).

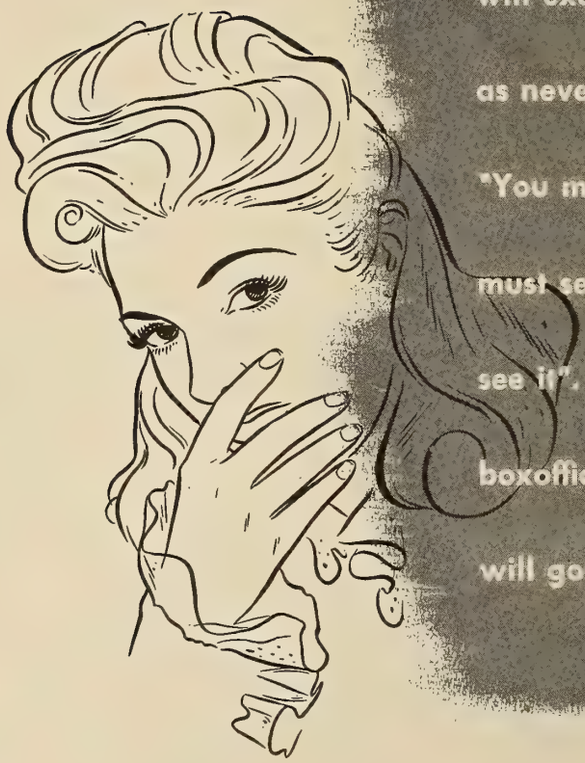
Rockefeller Approved By Senate Group

(*Continued from page* 1)

assistant secretaries nominated by President Roosevelt, was subjected to somewhat less questioning than was MacLeish, also to be assistant secretary, whose writings and poetry were explored. Early confirmation of the appointments is expected to be taken by the Senate, which is working to close the current session for the Christmas holidays.

Colorful "Dixieland" spectacle, inspired by the days of Mississippi steamboats, one of the many sparkling ice revues in Republic's big musical, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE," starring lovely Vera Hruba Ralston.

ADVT.



Yes... people will tell people... and the power that is called "word-of-mouth" will exert its magic as never before...

"You must see it... you must see it... you must see it"... this is the boxoffice word that will go everywhere...

That's the kind of a picture **"GUEST IN THE HOUSE"** *is*

Presented by

HUNT STROMBERG

starring

ANNE BAXTER *with* RALPH BELLAMY

ALINE MacMAHON • RUTH WARRICK

SCOTT McKAY • MARIE McDONALD

Jerome Cowan • Percy Kilbride • Margaret Hamilton • Connie Laird

From the Stage Play by Hagar Wilde and Dale Eunson • Screen Play by Ketti Frings

Director of Photography, Lee Garmes, A.S.C. • Directed by JOHN BRAHM

Released thru United Artists

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 116 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1944 | TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE

Paramount to Commercialize Its Television

To Sell Time on Present Facilities After Jan. 1

A direct bid to enter television broadcasting on a wide scale in the postwar rather than confine itself to providing television program for its 1,500-plus affiliated theatres is seen by television authorities in Paramount's seeking permission from the Federal Communications Commission to construct a series of television relay stations.

It has been learned here that Paramount has immediate plans for commercializing its existing television outlet in Chicago, Balaban and Katz's station WBKB, used for many years for

(*Continued on page* 10)

Congress Gets Bill For Film Library

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Legislation authorizing construction of a $2,800,000 film library in Washington has been submitted to Congress, but no action on the measure is expected to be taken at this session, now drawing to a close.

Proposals for the construction of a special building as a repository for Government films was made Nov. 12 by the Washington *Post* and aroused immediate support from Government officials already concerned lest films of World War II receive the same neglect that dissipated a large volume of pictures of World War I.

Film Classics Pays For Nine Goldwyns

Payments on nine pictures, at this date exceeding by five the original commitment, have been made to Samuel Goldwyn by Film Classics, on reissues of Goldwyn films. Original deal called for four films to be paid for by Jan. 1, 1945, and payments already have been made on "Dead End," "Kid From Spain," "Cowboy and the Lady," "Resurrection," "I Was Faithful," "Barbary Coast," "Wuthering Heights," "They Shall Have Music" and "One Heavenly Night."

"Wuthering Heights," current reissue, has been booked for 10 weeks at the World, New York.

Million Seats For 'Polio'

Although pledge blanks for the 1945 March of Dimes drive have been in the hands of exhibitor state chairmen only a few days, reports reaching national headquarters of the industry's 'polio' committee at the Hotel Astor, here, indicate that thousands of theatres have already enrolled in the theatre drive (Jan. 25-31), representing more than 1,000,000 seats.

The committee reports that the response has been so spontaneous that Herman Robbins, handling distribution of the special Greer Garson drive appeal trailer, has increased the print order to at least 13,000.

J. R. Vogel, circuit chairman for the drive, reports an immediate response from circuits which are sending blanket pledges covering all of their theatres. Vogel estimates that the circuits alone from which he has pledges now represent the first 1,000,000 seats

(*Continued on page* 7)

$1,400,000 to Korda On 1944 Re-issues

Alexander Korda, now handling his own reissues, his deal with Dan Frankel having expired, grossed $1,400,000 on world rights during 1944, it is understood.

Korda has postponed a trip to the Coast until Dec. 24, waiting until screen tests he brought with him have cleared U. S. Customs and are shown to some home office executives.

Kingsberg Reports 17% 'E' Increase

Lagging 'E' bond sales in the Sixth War Loan drive have been perked by New York area theatres which have sold well over $30,000,000 of the bonds, as of the last official tabulation, representing $5,500,000 above exhibitor sales for the Fifth War Loan, Malcolm Kingsberg, New York bond drive chairman, reported at the weekend. The jump is over 17 per cent.

Taube Forms 3 More Ontario Groups

TORONTO, Dec. 17.—Syd Taube, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario has returned from a trip North, during which he formed three exhibitor associations.

In Sudbury, M. Kirk of the Regent Theatre was named chairman, Jim Dodsworth of the Capitol, acting vice-chairman, and M. Marriott of the Grand, secretary. In North Bay, at a luncheon meeting, M. Nelson of the Capitol was appointed chairman; Lorne Moore of the Melrose, vice-chairman, and Doug Patterson of the Grand, secretary.

In Sault Ste. Marie, M. Chilton of the Princess was elected chairman; Al Hartshorn, vice-chairman, and W. McGeachie of the Orpheum, secretary.

National Conference Work Wins Industry Support

More than 500 representative members of all branches of the industry attended the luncheon tendered by the amusement division of the National Conference of Christians and Jews at the Hotel Astor, Friday, launching the organization's national drive for $1,000,000 with which to continue and extend its work of advancing racial and religious amity.

J. Robert Rubin

J. Robert Rubin, vice-president and general counsel

(*Continued on page* 10)

3,000 New Soviet Theatre Units

Washington, Dec. 12.—Considered significant of the Soviet's determination to strengthen its home film-exhibition position, now, for the postwar, is the placement, by the end of this year, of 3,000 new, mobile sound-theatre units on the Government's film network, as reported to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce; this, despite crucial manufacturing requirements for fighting items for the war effort.

One Man Per Booth Sought In St. Louis

Ordinance Repeal Asked As Aid to War Effort

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 17.—The St. Louis Motion Picture Exhibitors Committee, in a public statement issued at the weekend by Louis K. Ansell, chairman, called upon the Board of Aldermen to repeal the city ordinance requiring two motion picture projectionists in every booth, and branded the use of two projectionists as "a waste of skilled manpower." In newspaper advertisements, the exhibitors declared that 95 per cent of theatres in the country use only one operator per shift.

The exhibitor committee is an outgrowth of the recent local projectionists' and exchange employees' strike which closed

(*Continued on page* 10)

Variety Movement Spreads to Canada

TORONTO, Dec. 17.—At a representative gathering of 60 film men here at the weekend, assembled to deal with the Benevolent Fund sponsored by the Canadian Picture Pioneers, a movement was launched to establish the first Variety tent in Canada. A committee of 11 was appointed to apply for a charter.

Prime movers include J. J. Fitzgibbons, Oscar Hanson, Paul Nathanson and Leo Devaney, the latter chairman of a luncheon at which all present were personal guests of Nathanson. Fitzgibbons outlined the Variety tent programs and philanthropies

(*Continued on page* 10)

1st Quarter Film Quotas Up Today

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—A meeting of executive heads of producer-distributors will be held here tomorrow to discuss raw stock allocations for the first quarter of 1945 with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the War Production Board photographic section.

Reviewed Today

Reviews of "Here Come the Waves" and "Tomorrow the World" appear on page 7.

Personal Mention

CHARLES R. ROGERS, United Artists producer, will arrive in New York today from the Coast.

•

ED FREIBERGER, JACK LAREAUX, EMANUEL FRIEDMAN, MURRAY GREENE, MIKE HUDISH and BEN MINDLIN, Century Circuit district managers and managers, and JOSEPH SPRINGER, general manager, were weekend Sixth War Loan bond drive winner guests at boss FRED SCHWARTZ' Timberdoodle Lodge at Lake Placid.

•

IRWIN MARGOLES of the Loew legal department, will return to New York Wednesday from a two week Florida vacation.

•

W. J. KUPPER, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, will return to work today after recovering from pneumonia.

•

HENDERSON M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, is in New York following a three-week tour of exchanges.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Western and Southern division sales manager, returned to New York over the weekend from Chicago and St. Louis.

•

J. R. WILLIAMS, head of the non-theatrical section of the film division of British Information Services, will arrive here this week from England.

•

EDWARD C. GRAINGER, head of the Shea circuit, left New York over the weekend for Columbus, Ohio.

•

PAT O'BRIEN left for the Coast at the weekend after concluding a USO tour.

•

HARRY BRYMAN, M-G-M manager, is in New York for a vacation and home office visit.

•

WALTER LANTZ planed at the weekend to Mexico City, where he will explore production possibilities.

3 CBS Stations to Blue, 2 from Mutual

Three radio stations now affiliated with Columbia Broadcasting System, and two with Mutual, will join the Blue Network on June 15, Chester J. LaRoche, Blue vice-president, reports. They are: WFTL, Miami; WPDQ, Jacksonville; WLAW, Lawrence, Mass.; WOOP, Boston, and KRNT, Des Moines. WNAX, Sioux City, Ia., operated by WNAX Broadcasting Corp., was also acquired.

The Blue at present has 189 affiliated stations and four of its own.

Bernard Mack Wounded

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—Bernard Mack, one of three sons of Irving Mack, Filmack Trailer Co., now in the Armed Forces, has been wounded while serving with an infantry unit in France.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE Supreme Court decision in the Crescent Amusement Co. case which, among other things, affirmed the divestiture phase of the Nashville Federal District court's decision, is indisputably one of the most significant court rulings affecting the industry which has been handed down in many years, perhaps the most significant since the Thacher decision outlawing compulsory arbitration.

The Crescent decision is being subjected to many interpretations in industry legal circles, the widely varying color and slants of each being in general conformity for the most part with the established affiliations of the individuals volunteering the interpretations. But there is one conclusion on which all appear to be in agreement. That is that the decision is not addressed either solely or particularly to affiliated theatre operations, but to independent circuit operations, as well. It should not be forgotten that Crescent is not an affiliated operation.

Industry legal minds, starting with that observation, find the Supreme Court decision directed primarily at buying power. What appears to be the test of whether or not the possession of buying power is legal or illegal, many industry attorneys are saying, is the manner in which that power was acquired and the way in which it has been used.

For example, and according to the line of legal reasoning under discussion here, should the courts find that franchises and license agreements have been used to impair competition, whether by independent or affiliated circuits, then the courts very likely will rule that buying power has been misused and should be restricted, with a divestiture order likely to follow.

•

These attorneys point out that the Crescent decision is not concerned with theatre affiliation, *per se*, and consequently its significance, if any, insofar as the Government's prospective move for affiliated theatre divorcement in the New York District court is concerned, is dubious.

Further, such attorneys hold that even theatre expansion and the acquisition of buying power are not illegal under the Crescent decision if they are not illegally used.

In this respect, they contend, an independent circuit or a half-dozen theatres in a single locality, which may be found to have stifled competition and misused buying power, could be more vulnerable in the courts, as a result of the Crescent decision, than an affiliated circuit operating scores of theatres in scores of cities wherein competition thrives.

The test of divestiture, they say, may be expected to be, not along lines of affiliation, but along lines of individual records of circuits possessing buying power, of how that power was amassed, and how it has been employed, whether those circuits be large or small, affiliated or unaffiliated.

•

There is in this a clue to the answer to those current reports that the decree companies may initiate new negotiations with the Department of Justice as a result of the Crescent decision and predicated upon theatre divorcement. Perhaps, but not likely. The Department asks of them complete divorcement because of affiliation. The Crescent decision seemingly informs them that where buying power is not found to have been illegally used, there need be no divorcement at all. If the decision has any application to the New York case, many industry attorneys believe that is what it is.

• •

Even the I.A.T.S.E. appears to be agreed that there was no basis or excuse for the St. Louis strike of projectionists and exchange workers. But, according to Felix Snow, international vice-president, the I. A. intends to correct an oversight by demanding a provision in future contracts with distributors which would prohibit film service to a theatre declared by the union to be "unfair." In other words, the union will seek to win future disputes with exhibitors by using distributors as its instrument, and by demanding that distributors uphold a union contract even though that may mean violating an exhibition contract.

As the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* said editorially of the strike recently: "Shocked by the union's tactics, the public may be tempted to restrain a freedom so grossly abused."

It's Becoming a Universal Chorus

Telephone calls to the Universal home office these days are being answered with this salutation: "Universal Pictures—Can't help singing!" And sing it, they do.

If this leaves you mystified, look up the reviews the trade press sang for the new Deanna Durbin picture.

Screen Publicists Nominate Officers

Screen Publicists Guild of New York, Local No. 114, at a membership meeting at the weekend, held at the Park Central hotel, nominated officers for 1945. Elections will be held in January; members in the Armed Forces will be notified by mail.

Nominees include: Harry Hochfield, 20th-Fox, unopposed for president; Jonas Rosenfield, Jr., of 20th-Fox, now first vice-president, declined renomination, and nominees for his post are Robert Ferguson, Columbia; Charles Cohen, M-G-M; Vivian Moses, RKO; for 2nd vice-president, Moses, J. Albert Hirsch, United Artists; David Bader, 20th-Fox; for secretary, Hirsch, Fred Hodgson, Paramount; Cohen; William Salter, RKO Service Corp.; Leon Roth, United Artists; for treasurer, Charles L. Wright, unopposed.

Winners Are Named In Vitaphone Drive

Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager for Warners, announced at the weekend the winners of the 1944-45 Vitaphone sales drive. Outstanding salesmen were: H. Keeter, Charlotte, first; Gordon Contee, Washington, second; W. H. Gaffney, Kansas City, third.

In addition, 12 salesmen received awards as district leaders, and 14 as district exchange winners. Bookers' prizes went to Los Angeles, New Orleans and Dallas. Over-quota awards were won by Kansas City, St. Louis, Seattle, Chicago, Atlanta, Charlottee, Washington. San Francisco, New York and Philadelphia.

Schenck To Washington

Nicholas M. Schenck left for Washington over the weekend where he will confer with President Roosevelt tomorrow on the March of Dimes Drive with industry committeemen. Schenck will leave for Florida later in the week for a two-week vacation, and then will leave Miami Beach for the Coast, arriving there Jan. 15. Mrs. Schenck, and other members of the family left for Florida over the weekend.

Nizer Addresses Forum

Louis Nizer, of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, film attorneys, spoke Saturday at the second annual *New York Daily Mirror* 'Youth Forum,' on 'Saving the Next Generation.' Nizer cited accomplishments by William Pitt, Benjamin Franklin, Joan of Arc, John Keats.

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Every month of the year brings

HIT AFTER HIT FROM REPUBLIC

All backed nationally through
ADVERTISING in more than
FORTY POPULAR MAGAZINES

⋮

and pre-sold directly
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LOCAL NEWSPAPERS
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RELEASED
NOVEMBER
30
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
RICHARD LANE
FRANK PUGLIA
AURORA MIRANDA
ALFREDO de SA
HENRY DA SILVA
RICO de MONTEZ
LEON LENOIR
and
ROY
ROGERS
KING OF THE COWBOYS
As Guest Star
Songs:
"BRAZIL"
"RIO DE JANEIRO"
"TONIGHT YOU'RE MINE
"MOONLIGHT FIESTA"
"UPA UPA"
"VAQUERO SONG"
"CAFE"
"CHORO"
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director
Screen play by
Frank Gill, Jr. and Laura Kerr
Original Story by Richard English

FOR RELEASE DECEMBER 23

Lake Placid Serenade

starring

VERA HRUBA RALSTON

featuring: EUGENE PALLETTE · VERA VAGUE · ROBERT LIVINGSTON · STEPHANIE BACHELOR

with

WALTER CATLETT · LLOYD CORRIGAN · RUTH TERRY · WILLIAM FRAWLEY · JOHN LITEL · LUDWIG STOSSEL · ANDREW TOMBES

and

RAY NOBLE AND ORCHESTRA

HARRY OWENS AND HIS ROYAL HAWAIIANS

Ice Specialties: McGOWAN & MACK · TWINKLE WATTS · THE MERRY MEISTERS

with

Guest Star: ROY ROGERS KING OF THE COWBOYS

STEVE SEKELY, *Director*

Original Story by Frederick Kohner · Screen Play by Dick Irving Hyland & Doris Gilbert

A Republic Picture

FOR RELEASE

JANUARY 31 1945

JOHN WAYNE
ANN DVORAK
in

FLAME OF BARBARY COAST

featuring
JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT
with WILLIAM FRAWLEY • VIRGINIA GREY
and
RUSSELL HICKS • JACK NORTON
PAUL FIX • MANART KIPPEN
JOSEPH KANE-*Director* • *Original screenplay by* Borden Chase
Based on a story by Prescott Chaplin
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

$10,000,000 Bond Buys for 'Canteen'

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 17.—A Hollywood premiere came to Albany, by 'proxy,' Friday night, and resulted in a $24,000,000 War Bond sale, with two leading Albany citizens each buying $10,000,000 worth of bonds to be 'stand-in' for Bette Davis and Errol Flynn, respectively, at the 'Proxy Premiere' of Warners' "Hollywood Canteen," at the Strand Theatre.

The two big bond buyers were: James R. Davie, president of the Albany Savings Bank, whose purchase enabled his wife to attend the opening as Bette Davis, and Frank Williams, president of the City and County Savings Bank, who attended as Errol Flynn.

Broadcast Featured

A Coast-to-Coast broadcast by Mutual's "Double or Nothing" program from the stage of the Strand was also featured. The day's program also included a reception given by the Albany Variety Club, to the local and visiting press, and other guests, followed by a dinner sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and Albany Federation of Sales Executives in the Ten Eyck Hotel, where Mayor Frank S. Harris presented a plaque to Warners for using the premiere of "Hollywood Canteen" as a stimulus for the War Loan campaign.

The name of Pearl Street, on which the Strand is located, was changed to 'Hollywood Boulevard' for the day, and there was a procession of civic notables, preceded by motorcycle escort, from the Chamber of Commerce dinner to the theatre for the broadcast and premiere, after which there was a party at the Albany Canteen.

'Victory' Is Set for Key City Openings

"Winged Victory" pre-release showings have been set for a number of key cities before the year's end, Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, announced at the weekend.

Following its world premiere at the New York Roxy, on Wednesday, it will open in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Cincinnati, Denver, Baltimore, Seattle, Kansas City, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, Atlantic City, Rochester, Syracuse and Dayton. Lt. General W. S. Knudsen will attend the Dayton opening, at the Colonial on Thursday. In Los Angeles, the film will play simultaneously at Loew's State, Chinese, Carthay Circle and Uptown.

'Placid' Premiere Set

Republic's "Lake Placid Serenade" will have its New York premiere at the Republic Theatre next Saturday. Promotions have been arranged over stations WMCA, WNEW, WINS, WOR, WAAT, WOV, WHN, and WBYN.

Among those expected at the opening are Dr. John Papanek, Minister Extraordinaire of Czechoslovakia, and members of the Czechoslovak consulate and information bureau here.

Screen 'Singing'

T. B. Harms Co. has arranged a special screening of Universal's "Can't Help Singing," for the music profession tonight at the Normandie Theatre, here.

Reviews

"Here Come the Waves"

(*Paramount*)

Hollywood, Dec. 17

FOR Bing Crosby's vehicle to follow the sensationally successful "Going My Way," producer-director Mark Sandrich selected a subject of timely interest—the Navy WAVES—and gave the No. 1 singer of popular songs Betty Hutton and Sonny Tufts as running mates.

Crosby gives a sterling performance in a tailor-made role. Screenwriters Alan Scott, Ken Englund and Zion Myers poke sly fun at the Sinatra craze, devising a hero whose singing makes the youngsters swoon, and whose appearance on a city street creates a crowd out of thin air.

Miss Hutton does a remarkable job in a dual role. She is cast as twin sisters: one serious and intelligent, the other a dizzy blonde. In her blonde aspect, she is wild about Crosby to the point of swooning when he sings. As a brunette, she loves him with greater restraint, and despite her better judgment.

The plot is a bit fuzzy, since it is a makeshift concoction designed to combine production numbers with factual information about the WAVES. The two girls, dancers in a night-club, leave their act to enlist. Through Tufts, cast as a sailor, they meet Crosby, who has abandoned his own career as an entertainer in order to join the Navy. He falls for Rosemary, the serious sister, but finds his progress with her impeded by the infatuation his charms have aroused in her twin. At the latter's instigation, he is selected to do a recruiting show for the WAVES. This show is the basis for subsequent production numbers, and it is to be regretted that they are not more plentiful.

Harold Arlen and Johnny Mercer supplied the songs one of which, "Accentuate the Positive," has already displayed best-seller qualifications. "Let's Take the Long Road Home" and "I Promise You" also have hit-making possibilities. The familiar "Black Magic" is given a prominent spot. Robert Emmett Dolan was musical director.

Running time, 97 minutes. "G".* Release in block No. 3.

THALIA BELL

"Tomorrow the World"

(*United Artists-Cowan*)

Hollywood, Dec. 17

PROBING as with a surgeon's lancet the world-sized problem of what to do with Nazi-minded German youth when peace comes, Lester Cowan's production of the James Gow-Arnaud D'Usseau stage success lays bare in their simplest terms the grim facts and implications that challenge every citizen of the earth. His film, directly reversing the trend towards escapism, tackles its subject hard and throws it for a first-down without intimating for a moment that it will not rise again. It is stern entertainment, relying upon impact and appeal to thought rather than upon routing artifices of amusement, and compares directly to no other picture of equivalent importance but "Watch on the Rhine."

The central figure is an 11-year-old Nazi-trained German boy, played with horrible effectiveness by 'Skippy' Homeier, from the Broadway cast. Brought into the American home of Frederic March, college professor doing secret work for the Government, the boy attempts to apply Nazi methods to the family and his school acquaintances. Lying, stealing, plotting to divide and conquer, to foment race prejudice, finally to kill, he remains steadfast to his Nazi training throughout a series of starkly dramatic incidents and breaks down only, and perhaps momentarily, under a direct appeal to filial loyalty after exposure and physical disaster have overwhelmed him. On this the producer ends the picture, but explicitly not the problem.

Performances by March, Betty Field, Agnes Moorehead and Joan Carroll, necessarily subordinated to the Homeier lead, are uniformly excellent. Leslie Fenton's direction skillfully balances the moments of action against dialogue so powerful as to stand alone. The screenplay, by Ring Lardner, Jr., and Leopold Atlas, is among the best transcriptions from stage to screen that have been accomplished.

With the names of the principals and the fame of the stage play to attract opening crowds, showmen can count on word-of-mouth to carry grosses onward and upward from there.

Running time, 86 minutes. "G"*. Release date Dec. 29.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

Board Approves Hospital

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 17.—Final approval of plans for the construction of a 90-room hospital on the grounds of the Motion Picture Country Home have been approved by the executive board of the Motion Picture Relief Fund. Building will commence immediately on receipt of priorities.

Dr. Kolb, 81, Dies

CINCINNATI, Dec. 17.—Dr. George C. Kolb, 81, owner of the Norwood and Woodward, suburban houses, died Thursday night in Good Samaritan Hospital following a stroke. He is survived by one son.

AMPA Party Tomorrow

The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' annual Christmas party luncheon this year will be held at Toots Shor's Restaurant tomorrow, Dec. 19, and will be highlighted by the distribution of Christmas gifts. Members of the organization and representatives of the trade press only will attend the meeting, which will be AMPA's last for this year.

Variety Party Dec. 23

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—Local Variety Club's annual 'Christmas Frolic' will be held Saturday night, Dec. 23, at the Blackstone Hotel here.

First Million Seats Pledged for 'Polio'

(*Continued from page 1*)

in the drive, and they are coming in at the rate of nearly 500,000 seats a day. The campaign committee aims at a goal of 10,000,000 seats pledged!

Among the first circuits sending in blanket pledges to Vogel are: Altoona Publix, 12 theatres; Fabian, 47 theatres; Harry Chertcoff, 10; Cinema Circuit, 11; Loew's, 134; Graphic, 14; Lockwood and Gordon, 16; Max Levenson, 6; Lewen Pizor, 12.

Other circuits that have indicated their 100 per cent participation include: Warner Theatres, RKO, Wilby-Kincey, Interstate (Texas), Mullins and Pinanski, Publix-Detroit, Butterfield, L. C. Griffith, A. H. Blank, Harry Brandt, Fox-West Coast, Skouras, and others.

Owing to war conditions, the campaign committee seeks pledges immediately so estimates can be made on the number of trailers, posters, etc. required.

Film Artists Design Red Cross Poster

Art departments in home offices will compete in designing the key poster for exploiting 'Red Cross Movie Week' in 1945, it was announced at the weekend by Barret McCormick and Harry Mandel, advertising-publicity directors in the campaign.

Posters must be completed by Dec. 27 and will be judged by N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, and national chairman of the drive; Si Fabian, national chairman of the exhibitors' division, War Activities Committee; Francis Harmon, executive vice-chairman of the WAC; and Howard Bonham, director of public relations, American Red Cross.

20th Christmas Party Thursday at Astor

Spyros Skouras, Tom Connors, W. C. Michel and Murray Silverstone will be among 20th Century-Fox executives who will be hosts to company employees, members of the trade press and company service men and women at its annual Christmas party in the Hotel Astor Thursday noon.

Screen, radio and stage stars will entertain. W. J. Kupper, general sales manager who has been in Los Angeles recuperating from pneumonia, is also expected to attend.

Jack Sichelman, executive assistant to Connors, is again in charge of arrangements.

WB Christmas Party

The home office Warner Club held its annual Christmas party Saturday at Hollywood Theatre, here. More than 1,600 children and youthful relatives of Warner Club members attended. Arrangements were handled by Martin F. Bennett, president of the club, Harry Mayer, Bernard R. Goodman and Robert Salomons.

'Warvets' Host GIs

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 17.—Warner's 'Warvets', comprising 500 ex-service men of two World Wars, entertained wounded soldiers from Coast hospitals Friday night at a benefit show held at the studio. Bill Orme, president of Warvets, and Jack McConachy, were in charge.

In the bag for Chri

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

tmas!

SAMUEL GOLDWYN
presents

BOB HOPE
in
The Princess and the Pirate
IN TECHNICOLOR

with
VIRGINIA MAYO
and
WALTER SLEZAK
WALTER BRENNAN
VICTOR McLAGLEN

Directed by DAVID BUTLER · *Associate Producer* DON HARTMAN

Screen Play by Don Hartman, Melville Shavelson and Everett Freeman

Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES Inc.

Paramount to Commercialize Its Television

(*Continued from page* 1)

experimental purposes only, by soliciting sponsored shows for the first time early next year.

"Paramount intends to be in a position to provide inter-city television links if such facilities are not available through other sources when they are needed," Paul Raibourn, in charge of Paramount's television activities told MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

The FCC filing is for relay stations on channels nine through 16, for stations at Peru Mountain, Vt., New York, Buffalo, Detroit, El Paso, Roanoke, Chicago, Des Moines and Los Angeles. Television Productions, Paramount affiliate, will establish and maintain the transmitters as portable units in conjunction with the relay stations and projected two television radio-relay link networks.

If the FCC approves Paramount's applications, the company would probably have to operate as a common carrier of television network programs for the public, rather than exclusively service its own circuit, according to observers in television.

Channels Sought

The channels sought by Paramount are described as being within the frequencies used or sought by television broadcasters, and not within the experimental channels recently asked for by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers to make exclusive features possible for theatres without telecasting to the general public's home receivers.

Other television spokesmen see a challenge by Paramount to American Telephone and Telegraph's offer to the film industry of the use of A. T. and T.'s present and contemplated coaxial cables providing inter-city television links. It is believed in television quarters that the use of radio relays such as those apparently contemplated by Paramount, with 'booster' stations interspersed, might be a less expensive type of inter-city transmission than the coaxial method. Raymond F. Guy, NBC radio facilities engineer, states that a 4,500-mile relay circuit, with 'boosters' separated by approximately 30 miles, would cost $13,000,000. He indicated that there is no limit to what engineers can do.

Noble Denies WMCA Pressure Charges

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Edward G. Noble, former Under Secretary of Commerce, at the weekend denied allegations that he used "pressure" in buying radio station WMCA, New York, from Donald Flamm for $850,000 in 1940 and that he had called Thomas G. Corcoran to use his influence in heading off a Congressional investigation of the sale.

Velez Rites Today

BEVERLY HILLS, Dec. 17.—Non-denominational church services for Lupe Velez, screen actress, who was found dead in her home here Thursday, will be held tomorrow, followed by burial in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale.

National Conference Work Wins Industry Support

(*Continued from page* 1)

of Loew's, Inc., who is chairman of the amusement division of the Conference, presided at the luncheon. He recalled to those present that the day marked the 153d anniversary of the Bill of Rights, observing that "more than the legal adoption of that document is required to make its guarantees of liberties available to all," and that that necessary "something more" is the work in which the Conference is engaged.

Basil O'Connor, head of the American Red Cross, and active in Conference work for many years, paid tribute to the late Wendell Willkie for his "interest in humanity and his tolerance," in addressing the gathering. "Willkie," he said, "had deep consideration for the rights, the feelings and backgrounds of others."

Not Hopeless

O'Connor observed that the work of the Conference is sometimes ridiculed as a hopeless task, but those in it, he said, "know that the foundation was well worth laying." He related that his recent visit to war fronts convinced him that there is no "sweetness and light" there, and that it must be nourished and developed at home. "If you believe in the brotherhood of man," O'Connor said, "now is the time to throw up every bulwark against the peril to it that may be coming."

The "strategy" of the National Conference, its president, Everett R. Clinchy, said, "is to get the leaders of every organization working under their own power to make justice and decency prevail in the group relations of all Americans. The job can only be done together. Together we can prevent a postwar hate movement against any one of our American groups. Together we can make Hitler's exhibition the last epidemic of mass hatred."

Dr. Howard A. Wilson of Harvard, another speaker, described the work of the Conference among the 20,000,000 young people attending the nation's schools and there learning a way of life. "Our direct concern," he said, "is whether our young people become practitioners of prejudice or of good human relations. In helping to attain the right result the Conference is asking the aid of 1,000,000 teachers."

Major General Frederick E. Uhl, commander of the Fourth Service Command, Atlanta, speaking of tolerance as a "major concern," told the meeting: "It may be that with our military victory will come our final opportunity for this generation or this civilization, to convert into practical reality the principles of Christianity and Judaism, the principles of peace, justice, humanity and good will among men. Now or never, the world must abandon the practice of clubbing into submission any people who dispute our personal beliefs."

Dr. Daniel A. Poling, another speaker, told the meeting that the "war will not be lost on the fighting fronts but it may be on the home front, and through disunity. The Conference is making a signal contribution to American unity. The best contribution anyone can make, therefore, is to the Conference."

Miss Monroe Sings

The meeting was preceded by an invocation by Comm. Joshua Goldberg, USNR, and the singing of the National Anthem, led by Miss Lucy Monroe.

Among those seated at the dais, in addition to those mentioned, were: Joseph Bernhard, Harry Brandt, Leo Brecher, Jules Brulatour, Jack Cohn, Abel Green, Francis Harmon, Marcus Heiman, Austin Keough, Malcolm Kingsberg, John J. O'Connor, Charles L. O'Reilly, Ralph Poucher, Herman Robbins, William F. Rodgers, Harry Ross, James Sauter, W. C. Michel, Lee Shubert, Nate Spingold, Walter Vincent, Richard Walsh, Albert Warner and David Weinstock.

One Man Per Booth Sought in St. Louis

(*Continued from page* 1)

more than three-fourths of the theatres in St. Louis and St. Louis County before ending early last week.

The exhibitors have offered to reimburse projectionists for any deficit in salary incurred in accepting war jobs and agreed to take them back 'if necessary,' after the war.

Virtually all of the theatres closed by the strike were reopened by yesterday, when the St. Louis resumed operation.

The Exhibitors Committee has not reached a decision on possible legal action against the unions.

'S.S. Nininger' Launched

DULUTH, Minn., Dec. 17.—The *S.S. Alexander R. Nininger, Jr.*, named for the late son of Alexander R. Nininger, manager of the Lake Theatre, Lake Worth, Fla., was launched here recently by the U. S. Maritime Commission. Lt. Nininger, a hero of the Philippines who was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, was killed Jan. 12, 1942.

Franchise Suit Trial Now Set for Jan. 8th

Trial of Leader Theatre Corp.'s suit against 20th Century-Fox and the Randforce Circuit, was set for Jan. 8, at the weekend by Justice Edward R. Koch in New York Supreme Court. Today, by order of Justice Lloyd Church, 20th-Fox's Ray Moon will be examined before trial. On Dec. 27, Samuel Rinzler of Randforce will be examined.

Leader claims that 20th-Fox allowed Randforce to switch a franchise from the Leader to another theatre in Randforce circuit, after the Leader was sold to the plaintiff. Such a contract transfer is illegal, it is alleged.

Appeals Clearance Award

Notice of appeal has been filed from clearance reduction granted to Basil Brothers, operating the Genesee, Buffalo, fixing the maximum clearance of the Bailey, operated by Dipson Theatres, Inc., over the Genesee at seven instead of the 14 previously held, the American Arbitration Association reported at the weekend. Dipson, the intervenor, made the appeal.

Hollywood

By THALLA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 17

COMEDIAN Manton Moreland has been signed by Monogram to a new two-year contract. His first assignment is a loan-out for "Tugboat Annie's Son," which James S. Burkett is producing for Republic. . . . Rory Mallison has been signed to a long-term Warner contract and will make his screen debut in "This Love of Ours," which stars John Garfield and Eleanor Parker. . . . John Fante has been signed by Paramount to write a screen-play for the South American musical which Louis Harris will produce.

•

Among the 'new faces' signed for Republic's "New Faces of 1945" are Robert Duke, Broadway actor; David Street, radio player, and Betty Deaton, former Follies girl. . . . Bruce Bennett has been added to the cast of "Mildred Pierce," now shooting at Warners. . . . Universal has borrowed Johnny Coy from Paramount for "That's the Spirit," which stars Peggy Ryan and Jack Oakie.

•

Harry James and his 'Music Makers' have been placed under contract by 20th Century-Fox. . . . Otto Kruger, having completed his work in Columbia's "Escape in the Fog," has left for New York to do a play on Broadway. . . . Ethel Smith has been signed by RKO to appear in "George White's Scandals of 1945." . . . Robert Armstrong will have the male lead opposite Stephanie Bachelor in Republic's "Gangs of the Waterfront." . . . Michael Kanin has been signed by Edward Small to prepare the screenplay for "Kate Fennigate," based on Booth Tarkington's best-seller, which Small will produce for United Artists release.

Variety Movement Spreads to Canada

(*Continued from page* 1)

throughout the U. S. and made an impassioned plea for a similar project in the Dominion to assist people in and out of the industry apart from the work of the Pioneers' membership, which is restricted to those with quarter-century business records.

Nathanson announced that J. Arthur Rank of England had cabled a donation of $1,000 to the Benevolent Fund, to which Nathanson had made a similar contribution several days previously.

William Covert, vice-president of IATSE, and president Art Milligan of the Toronto projectionists' local announced the support of the projectionists membership in the establishment of the Variety Club, which was also endorsed by many trade executives.

Hochstein Trial Today

Trial of Harry Hochstein, former morals inspector in Chicago, and the sentencing of Isadore Nevin, former bookkeeper for George E. Browne, ex-president of the IATSE, both of whom were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury for alleged perjury in the Bioff-Browne proceedings, are both scheduled for hearing today in New York Federal Court.

Watch Tomorrow's

for an Important Trade Announcement from

20th CENTURY-FOX

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

RED KANN praises "CAN'T HELP SINGING" in Page 1 review, Motion Picture Daily, December 14th

"UNIVERSAL is proud of 'CAN'T HELP SINGING.' It believes this Durbin vehicle—her first in color—will rank notably and high among the season's attractions; that it will be regarded not alone as a distinguished contribution to the difficult cause of memorable films, but as a pacemaker for peak grosses. Universal gets no arguments from this reviewer. He agrees without the shadow of a dissenting syllable.

"'CAN'T HELP SINGING' is that rarity: a thorough delight. Captured beautifully are superb music and fine musicianship, a star who has never been in better voice or seen to more flattering photographic advantage, a romance with a sense of pleasant and always believable humor, a comedy line which is consistently straight and unforced, and colorful backgrounds of the California gold rush era. The whole package is Tiffany-like from outer wrapping to very core."

Thanks, Red. Universal's happy you have substantiated our original point of view about "CAN'T HELP SINGING."

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 117 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1944 TEN CENTS

Cincinnati In Need of Help, Equipment

Air Systems Listed as A Prime Requirement

By E. H. MAYER

CINCINNATI, Dec. 18.—A variety of needs, with air conditioning predominating, feature local exhibitors' answers to the question: "What will be your most urgent or desired requirements in the postwar?", as propounded by MOTION PICTURE DAILY in a survey among theatre and exchange operators in the Cincinnati territory.

Theatrewise, one of the typical reports came as Harry David, general manager of Northio Theatres, outlined at his local headquarters, an ambitious program, the No. 1 consideration of which is an adequate and competent staff in each of the company's 18 houses, followed by installation of new

(*Continued on page 3*)

Extras Bolt SAG, 3 to 1

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18.—The National Labor Relations Board's balloting of Sunday in which extra players chose the Screen Players Union as their bargaining agency in preference to the Screen Actors Guild, by a 1,451 to 456 vote, may portend basic changes in studios' hiring mechanisms, according to production executives, who today were studying election consequences. Abolishment of the Central Casting Bureau, maintained by producers as a means of em-

(*Continued on page 2*)

PRC Increases Own Production by 30%

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18.—Veering further toward a policy of both financing and producing its own product, Leon Fromkess, president of PRC, disclosed here today that 70 per cent of PRC pictures now in preparation, for 1944-45 and also for the opening of 1945-46, will be produced by the company itself. Compared with the ratio of PRC productions to independent product released last season, this is an increase of more than 30 per cent.

New Films Helping B'way First Runs, 'Canteen' Is Tops

The arrival of new holiday films is helping several Broadway first-run theatres this week to recover from the slump, with additional new films expected to help elsewhere. Business, however, is still below record proportions of last year.

Outstanding of the new arrivals is "Hollywood Canteen" at the Strand, which is expected to bring a very big $65,000 for the first week, combined with a stage show featuring

(*Continued on page 3*)

20th Again Names Kreier to Europe

Robert A. Kreier, 20th Century-Fox assistant European manager up to 1942, will resume as assistant to Ben Miggins, European manager, it was learned here yesterday. Kreier, who has of late been home office representative in South America for Brazil and Argentina, returned from that territory a week ago.

Kreier will return to Paris with Miggins when they can procure a French visa and transportation.

Negotiations on for 2,000 'Collarites'

A meeting has been set for tomorrow between Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild Local 109, and Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th-Fox and Columbia, before Commissioner James W. Fitzpatrick of the U. S. Conciliation Service, on a contract and job classification dispute. Some 2,000 'white collar' workers of the five companies are involved in the dispute.

Silverstone Is Named UA Foreign Official

Emanuel Silverstone of United Artists home office domestic sales department has been named by Walter Gould, foreign manager, to an executive post in the foreign department, which he will assume Jan. 1, Gould announced yesterday. Silverstone will accompany Gould abroad shortly after Jan. 1 to survey the European market and aid in planning U.A.'s postwar expansion plans.

Silverstone was formerly Samuel Goldwyn's special sales representative in New York, later joining U.A.

(*Continued on page 2*)

Difficulty Setting First Quarter Raw Stock Quota

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Because of a number of uncertain factors, including determination of the volume of supply to be expected from film manufacturing plants in France and Holland, the War Production Board is encountering difficulties in determining raw stock allocation for the first quarter of 1945. Final decision may not be reached until near the year's end.

Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the WPB photographic section, is conferring with Government agencies on their needs of stock for the coming three months. A steady rise in military requirements, plus heavy lease-lend and export needs, both brought on by the unexpected prolongation of the war in Europe, is making it difficult to get the industry's allocations within the limits of the foreseeable supply without cutting the quotas of some of the claimants, it was said.

A meeting with executive heads of producer-distributors, scheduled for today, was postponed by Burrows at the last minute, to Dec. 28, or Jan. 4.

'Dimes' Chiefs See Roosevelt Today

Washington, Dec. 18.—President Roosevelt will confer at the White House tomorrow afternoon with 70 executive committeemen and state chairmen of the industry's 1945 March of Dimes drive.

In a preceding luncheon at the Statler Hotel, the group will be addressed by Nicholas M. Schenck, chairman of the drive; Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis; Dr. John Lavan, 'polio' expert; Ernest Emerling, campaign publicity director; J. R. Vogel, circuit chairman; Harry Brandt and Oscar A. Doob. After the Presidential reception, Carter Barron and John Payette will be hosts at a reception at the hotel.

N. Y. Theatres Escape Harsh Building Code

Also, Requirements for New Houses Less Severe

The new building code being promulgated for the 750 theatres in New York State, excluding New York City, by the State Labor Department's advisory committee will not cause any undue hardships by excessive remodeling of existing theatres, as was expected, it was learned here yesterday from a Labor Department spokesman.

The Labor Department also indicated that requirements for new theatres built in New York in the postwar will be reasonable and in most cases less se-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Wallis, Hazen Join MPPDA

Hal Wallis Productions was elected a Class 'A' member of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, and Joseph Hazen was elected to Class "C" membership, representing Wallis Productions, at a quarterly meeting of the MPPDA board of directors here yesterday. The board also approved the MPPDA's budget for the next year. Contemplation of Wallis with MPPDA was

(*Continued on page 3*)

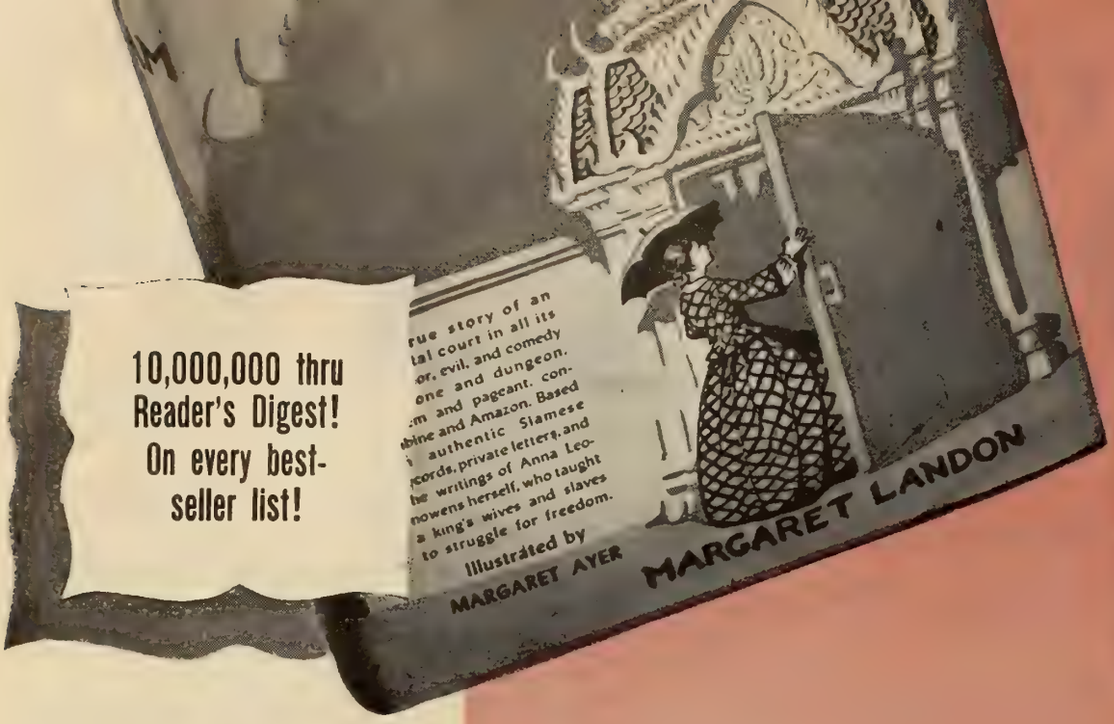
Sears, Goetz Talk International Deal

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18.—William Goetz, International Pictures president, admitted today that the visit here of Gradwell Sears, vice-president and in charge of distribution of United Artists, is to discuss a deal whereby International's 1945-46 product would be released by U.A.

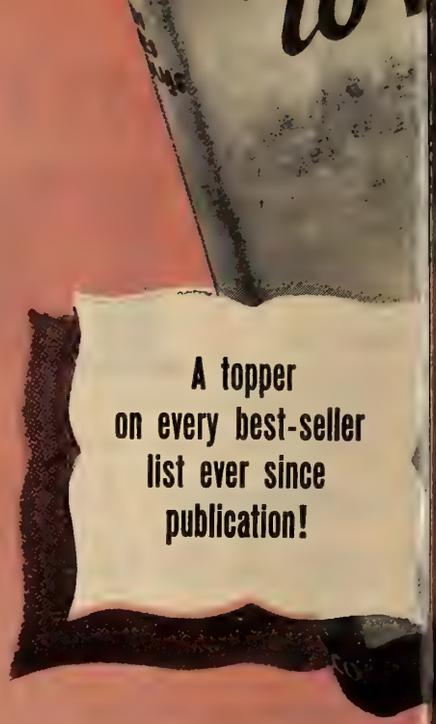
RKO presently handles distribution of International product. Sears' visit marks his second attempt to secure International's pictures for U.A.

Reviewed Today

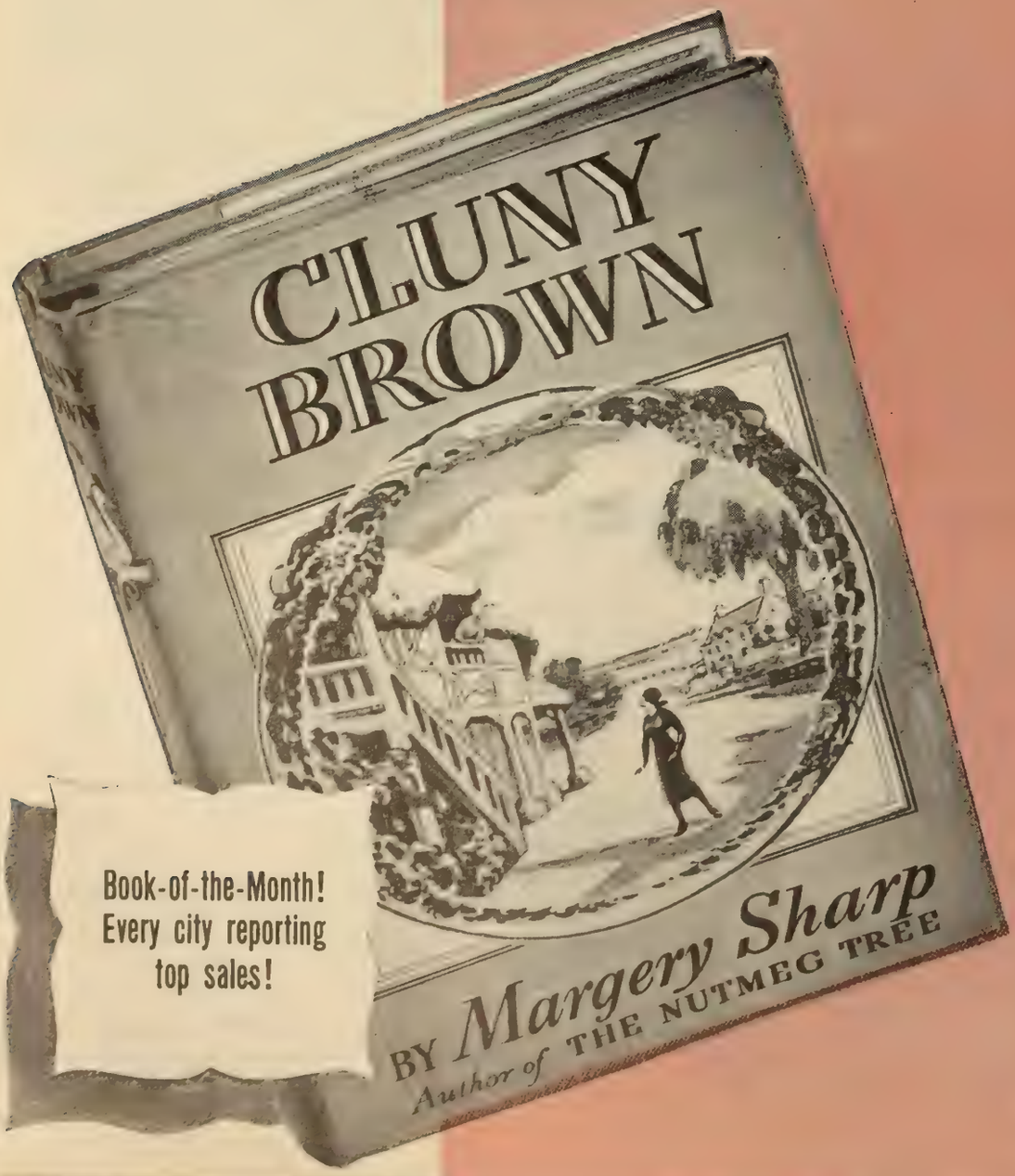
Review of "I'll Be Seeing You" appears on page 3.



10,000,000 thru Reader's Digest! On every best-seller list!

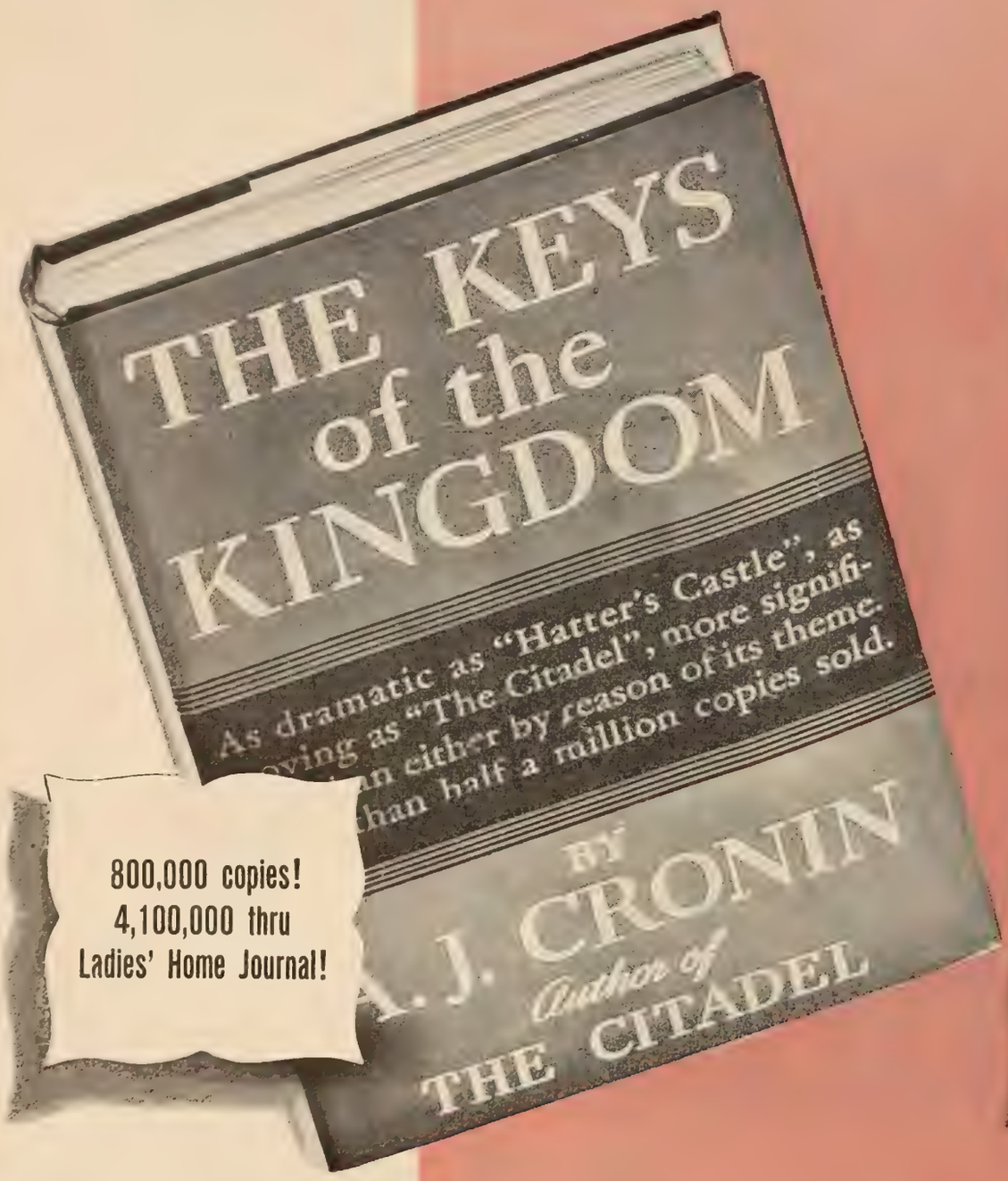


A topper on every best-seller list ever since publication!

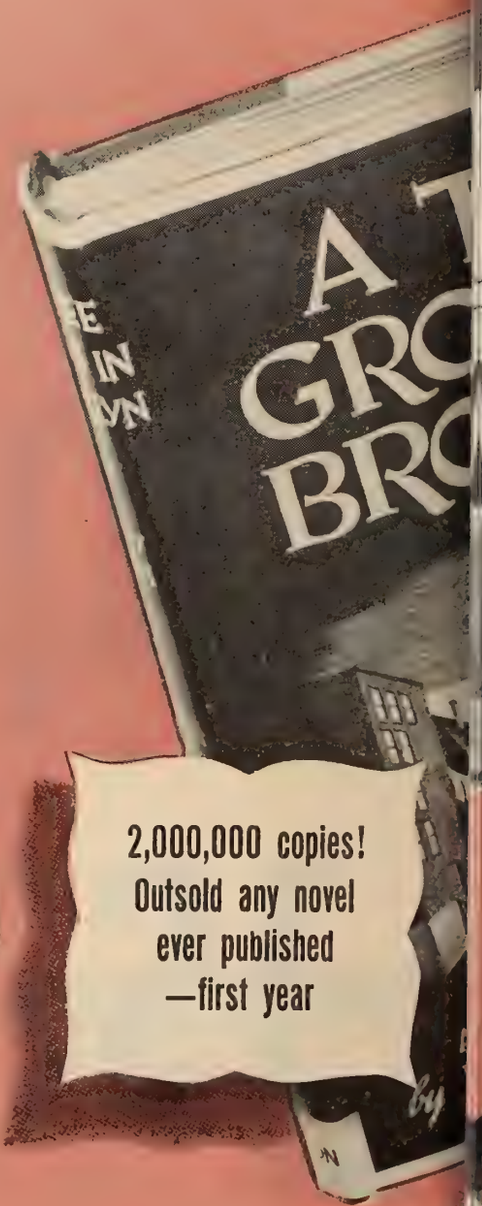


Book-of-the-Month! Every city reporting top sales!

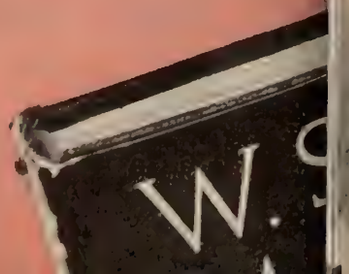
Publishers report over 500,000 copies sold!

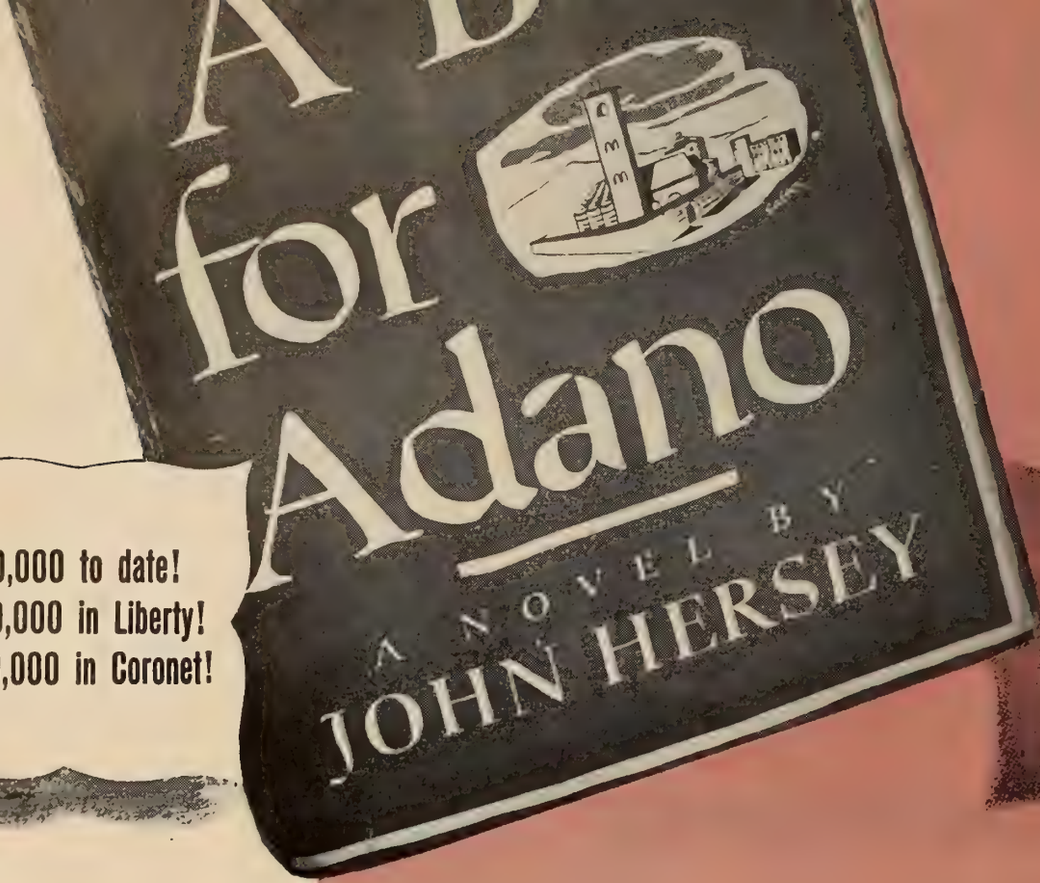


800,000 copies!
4,100,000 thru
Ladies' Home Journal!



2,000,000 copies!
Outsold any novel
ever published
—first year





400,000 to date!
1,300,000 in Liberty!
1,000,000 in Coronet!

More than 1,000,000!
1,600,000 in
Redbook!

The B
Best-

Of Ou

2

ALL OWNED BY

Personal Mention

MAX MILDER, managing director of Warner Bros. Pictures, Ltd., is en route from London to New York.

•

JOSEPH SISTROM, Paramount production executive, has returned to Hollywood after a week in New York conferring with RUSSELL HOLMAN and other home office executives.

•

FELIX FERRY, associated with the Leland Hayward-Deverich agency in Hollywood, has arrived in New York, to remain until after New Year's.

•

HARDIE MEAKEN, assistant RKO division manager in Cincinnati, will spend the holidays with his family in Washington.

•

ARTHUR C. BROMBERG, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, has returned to Atlanta from the West Coast.

•

SAM SCHECKTER, manager of the Colonial Theatre, Hartford, and MRS. SCHECKTER, have returned from New York.

•

CLAY V. HAKE, special representative for Paramount International in South Africa, is en route to Johannesburg from New York.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal's Southern Canadian sales manager, will leave today for Chicago where he will remain until the weekend.

•

JACK KRAKER, Philadelphia district manager for Ross Federal Service, is in New York.

•

HOWARD DIETZ will leave Hollywood for New York today aboard the Superchief.

•

ROBERT S. WOLFF, managing director of RKO-Radio Pictures, Ltd., has arrived in London from New York.

•

JOHN GRIERSON, film commissioner of the Canadian government, has returned to Toronto from Hollywood.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, president of Malco Theatres, Memphis, affiliated with Paramount, is in New York.

•

MORRIS GOODMAN, Republic vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, is in Havana from Peru.

•

P. S. HARRISON, publisher of *Harrison's Reports*, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

Davis to South Africa

LONDON, Dec. 18.—John Davis, managing director of Odeon Theatre of Great Britain, will leave here shortly for South Africa, where he expects to consummate, on behalf of J. Arthur Rank, a deal for Rank's "association" with a circuit there and also for the acquirement of theatre building sites.

Industry's 6th Drive Committee Honored

Members of the industry's national committees of the industry's Sixth War Loan Drive received gold emblems of the 'Medal of Honor,' yesterday from Harry Brandt, national chairman at a luncheon at the Monte Carlo restaurant.

Brandt revealed latest Treasury figures indicating the Sixth Drive will reach between 20 and 21 billion dollars, with 'E' bond sales running 10 per cent ahead of quotas, on $5,500,000,000 invested. Among the speakers and those present were Ted Gamble, Ned E. Depinet, S. H. Fabian, John Hertz, Jr., William Crockett, John Rugar, Henry Reeve, Jay Emanuel, R. J. O'Donnell, Leon Bamberger, Herman Robbins, Max A. Cohen, Catherine Overstreet, Herman Schleier, Max Youngstein, Ted Lloyd, Edward Bobee, Dave Bader, Sally Meiselman, Herbert Berg and Lt. Col. Roswell Rosengren, Capt. Ray Wild and Lt. Lewis Largey.

Hochstein, Nevin Trial Off to Jan. 15

Trial of Harry Hochstein, former morals inspector in Chicago, and the sentencing of Isadore Nevin, former bookkeeper for George E. Browne, ex-president of the IATSE, both of whom were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury for alleged perjury in the Bioff-Browne proceedings, was postponed yesterday to Jan. 15 in New York Federal Court. Judge Edward A. Conger postponed both actions at the request of U. S. Attorney Boris Kostelanetz.

Jersey Allied Will Meet, Dine Today

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will hold its annual Christmas beefsteak dinner this evening at the Ritz Restaurant, Passaic, in conjunction with a meeting of Allied's Eastern regional directors. National officers and representatives of New England, Eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland and New Jersey are to attend. The business meeting will precede the dinner.

'Young, Gay' Authors Sue Over 'Growing Up'

Cornelia Otis Skinner and Emily Kimbrough, authors of "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," have filed suit to restrain Paramount from making "Our Hearts Were Growing Up" as a sequel, claiming the new film is fictional and that their names are linked to the characters. The injunction will be argued in Supreme Court here Jan. 2.

Rathvon Sets Coast On Red Cross Week

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president and national chairman of the industry's Red Cross 'War Fund Week' for 1945, returned yesterday from two weeks in Hollywood where he set up arrangements with studio heads for Hollywood's participation in the drive, March 15-21.

Extras Bolt SAG By Vote of 3 to 1

(*Continued from page* 1)

ploying extras, could eventuate, one studio labor executive said, although not immediately.

Meanwhile, the SAG issued a statement declaring, "We will continue to represent all actors in the motion picture industry and assert exclusive jurisdiction." It announced that the SAG's board of directors will meet here tonight to consider problems arising from the election.

If validity of the election is not challenged within five days, the Washington NLRB will be asked to issue a certification of the SPU. Following certification, SPU would open negotiations with producers for a contract incorporating features sought by extra players who claimed to be dissatisfied with representation afforded previously by the SAG. Although the producers' attitude was officially unexpressed, it is believed that negotiations will await SPU's obtaining a charter.

In its pre-election campaign, the SAG publicized AFL president William Green's declaration that a charter would not be granted in the film acting field except to the SAG.

Stuart Paton, 61, Director, Dies

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 18.—Stuart Paton, 61, who directed "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," the first underwater film, in 1916, and many other films in the early days of motion pictures, died Saturday at the Motion Picture Country Club, Woodland Hills.

He is survived by a son, James Paton Cairneroes, music editor at Universal studios, and a daughter, Lillian Paton Cavarieri, actress.

Services will be held Thursday morning at Pierce Brothers Mortuary.

Yates and Two Stars To 'Placid' Premiere

Roy Rogers and Vera Ralston of Republic's "Lake Placid Serenade," will be crowned "Lake Placid King and Queen of Winter," respectively at the Ice Pageant and Figure Skating Carnival, Olympic Arena, Lake Placid, Dec. 29. They will make a personal appearance in conjunction with the premiere of the film at the Palace, Lake Placid.

Accompanying them will be H. J. Yates, Sr., Republic's board chairman, William Saal, his assistant and Steve Edwards, director of publicity.

Silverstone Is Named UA Foreign Official

(*Continued from page* 1)

at the home office, and then served as U.A.'s branch manager in Panama. He became Sir Alexander Korda's sales representative, and was subsequently elected vice-president and a director of the Korda company. Later he served as special representative for Howard Hughes.

McVeigh in Charge Of New Para. Unit

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18.—George Brown, Paramount studio publicity-advertising director, today announced the formation of the players' special publicity bureau, to operate as a unit of the studio publicity department.

Blake McVeigh, assistant studio publicity director, will head the new department and will organize a special staff. Teet Carle of Paramount's publicity staff, has been promoted to assistant studio publicity director. The new department will concern itself with exploitation of Paramount contract players. Players and publicity staff will meet daily prior to launching of nationwide campaigns publicizing those personalities.

NEW YORK THEATRES

HELD OVER 5th WEEK
BRAZIL
co-starring
TITO GUIZAR
VIRGINIA BRUCE
featuring
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
VELOZ and YOLANDA
FORTUNIO BONANOVA
and
ROY ROGERS
(King of the Cowboys) as Guest star
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Midnite Shows CO 5-9647
REPUBLIC THEATER
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
M-G-M's
"NATIONAL VELVET"
MICKEY ROONEY
DONALD CRISP - ELIZABETH TAYLOR
JACKIE JENKINS - REGINALD OWEN
and THE MUSIC HALL'S
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW
First Mezz. Seats reserved IN ADVANCE
Circle 6-4600

STATE
ON SCREEN
RONALD COLMAN
MARLENE DIETRICH
'KISMET'
IN TECHNICOLOR!
IN PERSON
LEE CASTLE
AND ORCH.
EXTRA!
Dean MARTIN

Alan Ladd ★ Loretta Young
in PARAMOUNT'S
"AND NOW TOMORROW"
In Person
GLEN GRAY
and the
Casa Loma Orchestra
ANDY RUSSELL
JERI SULLAVAN
SON & SONNY
WALLY BROWN and
ALAN CARNEY
PARAMOUNT Times Square

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
JOHN WAYNE • ELLA RAINES
'TALL in the SADDLE'
WARD BOND • AUDREY LONG

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New Films Helping B'way First Runs, 'Canteen' Is Tops

(Continued from page 1)

Lionel Hampton and his band. The first three days' gross, ending Sunday night, exceeded $32,000.

Radio City Music Hall is headed for an excellent $115,000 for the first week of "National Velvet" and the annual Christmas stage show, with $72,000 recorded for the first four days. A surprise entry is "House of Frankenstein," at the Rialto, which is expected to bring a big $17,000 for its first week; it will hold. "Tall in the Saddle" is also recording good business at the Palace with $28,000 expected in the first week; it, too, will continue. The Criterion expects a mild $22,000 for its first week of "The Climax" and will hold the film until Sunday night. "Can't Help Singing" will open at the Criterion on Christmas Day.

Holdovers Strong

Holdovers continuing to do big business include "30 Seconds Over Tokyo" and a stage presentation at the Capitol, and "Meet Me in St. Louis," at the Astor. The Capitol expects an excellent fifth and final week's gross of $65,000; and "Music for Millions" and a stage bill headed by Jimmy Dorsey and his band will open there Thursday. A big third week's gross of $35,000 was recorded by the Astor.

Business continues profitable at the Paramount with $57,000 expected for the fourth week of "And Now Tomorrow" and a stage bill featuring Glen Gray and his band; the combination will remain for a fifth and final week before making way for "Here Come the Waves." "Frenchman's Creek," at the Rivoli, and "To Have and Have Not," at the Hollywood, are satisfactory, with $16,000 expected for the 13th week of "Frenchman's Creek" and $21,000 indicated for the 10th week of "To Have and Have Not."

The Roxy expects a poor $46,000 for a third and final week of "Something for the Boys" and a stage bill; "Winged Victory" and a stage presentation featuring the Nicholas Brothers and Jack Durant will open there tomorrow. The Gotham, Globe and Republic will bring in new films this week. "Three Is a Family" will open at the Gotham this morning, following "Summer Storm," which grossed $4,400 for the final three days of a ninth week. "Tomorrow the World" will have a special premiere at the Globe Thursday evening. "Dark Waters" grossed $16,500 for a fourth week and an additional $2,700 is expected before the film ends its Globe run early Thursday evening. The Republic will open "Lake Placid Serenade" Saturday, after grossing $5,500 in the fifth week of "Brazil." The fourth exceeded earlier estimates, reaching $6,200. "Sign of the Cross" will open at the Victoria tomorrow following "Wilson" which will today conclude 12 weeks at the Victoria, following eight weeks at the Roxy. Final week's gross at the Victoria is expected to be a poor $3,450.

PRC Hosts Judy Clark

PRC was host to the trade press yesterday at a reception in the home office honoring Judy Clarke.

Review

"I'll Be Seeing You"

(Selznick International-United Artists)

THE unusual and gripping love story between a woman prison inmate on a Christmas furlough and a neuropsychiatric soldier on furlough from an Army hospital, contained in "I'll Be Seeing You," should provide women patrons, especially, with an emotional experience and exhibitors with excellent returns; Selznick International's production is sterling merchandise. It is handsomely produced by Dore Schary; Ginger Rogers and Joseph Cotten deliver outstanding performances in the top roles and supply splendid box office appeal; and in his direction William Dieterle has achieved a compact romantic film embodying a wealth of sympathetic understanding of the delicate problem inherent in the story. The results rate plaudits in every department. For added marquee value there are Shirley Temple and a supporting cast which includes Spring Byington and Tom Tully.

This is the film which started out as "Double Furlough," based on the Charles Martin story. In translating it to the screen Marion Parsonnet has wrought an appealing dramatic screen vehicle for Miss Rogers and Cotten. Miss Rogers as Mary Marshall, a girl who accidentally committed manslaughter while defending her sacred honor, has already served three years of a six-year prison term when she is permitted to spend Christmas holidays with her aunt. Cotten is a shell-shocked casualty of the Pacific campaign who has been furloughed by the hospital to see if he can regain confidence in himself. They fall in love against the kindly and steadying background provided by the Marshall family. Cotten begins to regain his confidence and it becomes very important to the Marshalls that he should not be permitted to suffer a setback by a disclosure of the truth, but Shirley Temple, young Marshall daughter, inadvertently tells Cotten the truth. While it is a blow to his hopes and a miserable situation for Miss Rogers, he manages to reconcile himself to the disclosure in sufficient time to reassert his love as Miss Rogers returns to prison to complete her debt to society. The Sammy Fain, Irving Kahal song from which the picture takes its title sets a tender and heartwarming mood for several scenes in the film.

Others in the cast include Chill Wills, Dare Harris and Kenny Bowers. David Selznick is certain to add to his reputation for outstanding productions with this film.

Running time, 85 minutes. "G."* Release date, Jan. 5.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

"G" denotes general classification.

Cincinnati Needs Men and Equipment

(Continued from page 1)

air conditioning or improvements in present systems, and seats.

Replacement of booth and sound equipment is considered the prime essential by Maurice White, general manager of United Theatres here. "Undoubtedly, postwar equipment in all classifications will be vastly improved, and we will not hesitate to re-equip throughout, installing whatever we consider necessary or advantageous to the most modern and efficient operation of our houses," he stated.

Modernization of existing air conditioning plants, and the possible installation of a few new ones are the chief concern at the moment of F. W. Hull, Jr., head of Associated Theatres.

J. Real Neth, Columbus, president and general manager of the Neth houses there, has definite plans in mind. His first consideration is seats, followed by carpets, stage settings and screens, in the order named.

The Paramount branch, in charge of Joseph J. Oulahan, will occupy a new exchange building to be erected as soon as materials become available. Plans have been completed for a modern, pretentious structure on a site already acquired near the Film Exchange Building on Central Parkway which houses most of the branches. The company's present quarters, quite far removed from this center of film activity, leaves considerable to be desired.

Elect Wallis, Hazen As MPPDA Members

(Continued from page 1)

predicted in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Nov. 24.

The board accepted, with regret, the resignation of Lester Thompson of the Advertising Code Administration. Gordon S. White, previously associated with the field work of the Public Information Committee, will succeed Thompson as acting director. The board paid tribute in resolutions taking cognizance of the services rendered the association by Thompson and by the late Maurice McKenzie. Thompson expects to move to Florida after Jan. 1.

Members of the Board in attendance were: Barney Balaban, George Borthwick, Jack Cohn, E. W. Hammons, N. Peter Rathvon, and Spyros Skouras. Also, J. Robert Rubin, for Nicholas Schenck; John J. O'Connor, for Nate J. Blumberg, and W. C. Michel, Austin C. Keough and Carl E. Milliken.

Theatres Escape Harsh N. Y. Code

(Continued from page 1)

vere than requirements in New York City's own building code.

Existing theatres in New York State, it was said, will probably only be affected by the new code by being required to increase illumination. The present code provides only for 'adequate lighting.'

At meetings here of the industry's advisory committee, which includes Henry Anderson, Paramount; Martin J. Tracey, Century Circuit; Theodore Junge, alternate for Harry Moskowitz, Loew's, and Glen H. Humphrey of projectionists Local No. 337, "reasonable requirements for theatre curtains" are also being discussed. The previously reported requirement that every theatre with a stage in the State, except New York City, must have a fire curtain of steel frame with an automatic lowering device, will now apply only to theatres presenting theatrical performances with moveable scenery, and not to motion picture theatres which present stage shows, it was said.

Requirements Practical

"Theatre curtain requirements in the new code will be practical, with actual conditions dictating requirements rather than the provision in the New York City building code which demands that curtains be able to withstand 1,700-degree heat for one-half hour," the Building Department's spokesman pointed out.

Provisions in the new New York State code for emergency exits and fire-escapes will apply only to theatres built in the postwar and not to present theatres. The next meeting of the code advisory committee will be held early in January.

T. C. Seibert Named Bamberger President

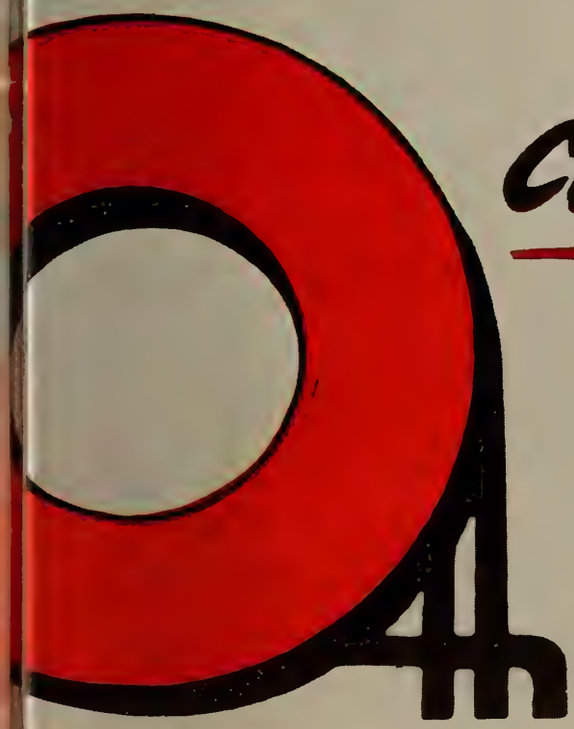
Theodore C. Seibert has been elected president of the Bamberger Broadcasting Service, Inc., succeeding Alfred J. McCosker, who becomes chairman of the board. Jack I. Strauss has resigned as board chairman to become a director.

Rogers Arrives forTalent

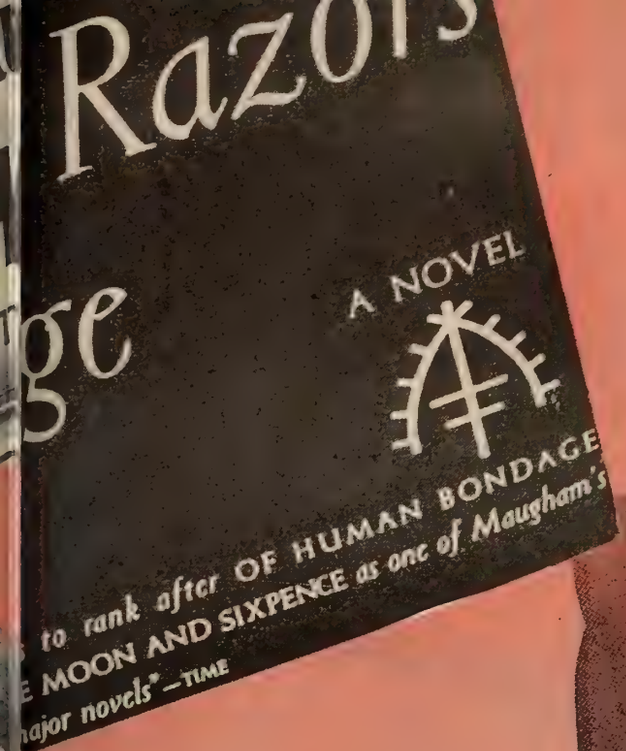
Charles R. Rogers arrived here yesterday from the Coast for a stay of several weeks to sign talent for musicals, interview some for a role in a film built around *Esquire's* "Varga Girl," and purchase a play.

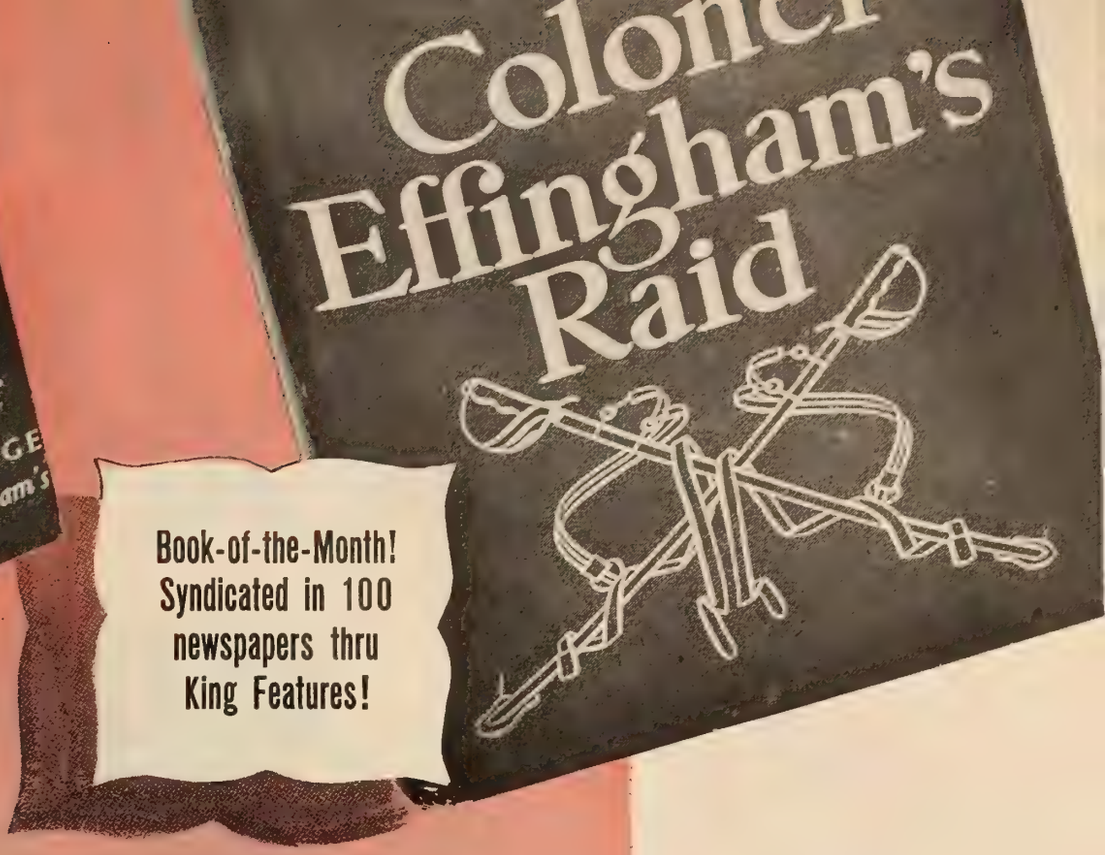
Rogers just completed "Delightfully Dangerous," a musical which United Artists will release.

Time...



CENTURY-FOX





Book-of-the-Month!
Syndicated in 100
newspapers thru
King Features!

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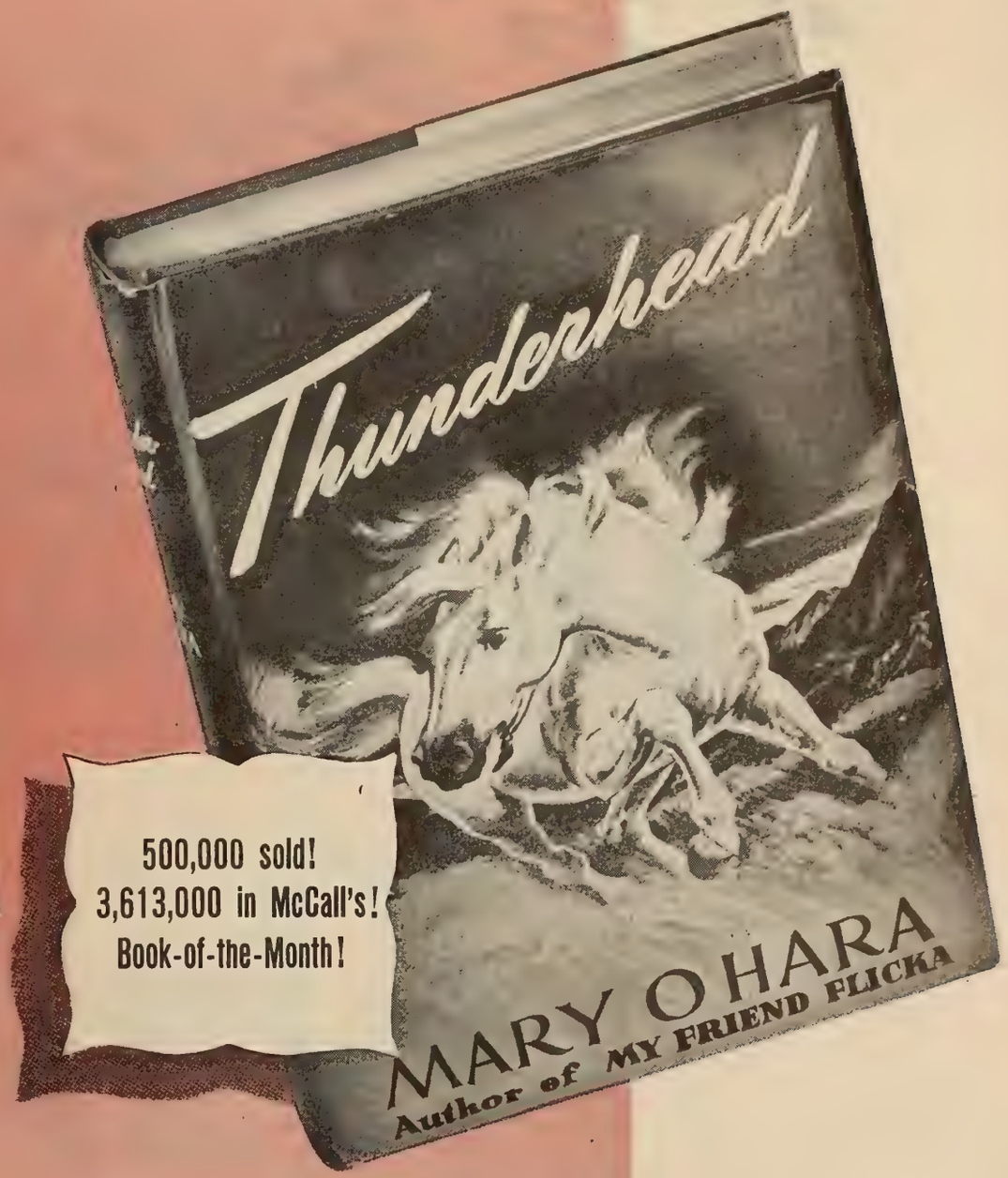
ellers

4th
Y-FOX
higgest

ent of the
ox-office
n history!
...Here it is



500,000 sold!
3,613,000 in McCall's!
Book-of-the-Month!

A scoop buy!
250,000 sold first 8 weeks!
1,000,000 in Coronet!

350,000 first printing!
Literary Guild!
2,160,000 in Cosmopolitan!

See-Power

Practice good SEE-manship . . . by setting your course . . . for the middle of the brawl . . . like our great Navy does . . . The best maritime scrappers of all history . . . Give 'em broadside after broadside of SEE power Advertising . . . For good SEE-manship with Accessories and Trailers . . . is nothing but good Showmanship . . . Get those Advertising flat-tops, battle-wagons, cruisers and destroyers all over your area of operation . . . Sink any stagnation that tries to . . . torpedo your investment . . . Fight it out on plan N.S.S. . . . The plan that makes every picture you buy . . . SEE-worthy.

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

STANDARD ACCESSORIES · TRAILERS · SPECIALTY ACCESSORIES

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 118 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1944 TEN CENTS

Polio Fight Is Pledged by 87 Film Leaders

Roosevelt Cites Theatre Aid 'Typically American'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Eighty-seven prominent members of the industry, after 45 minutes spent with President Roosevelt in the White House today, were more determined than ever to carry on the crusade against infantile paralysis and to set a new record in the 1945 March of Dimes drive.

Following a campaign meeting in which every state and Alaska and the Canal Zone were represented by chairmen, the entire group went to the White House at five o'clock and had tea in the State Dining Room with the President and his daughter, Mrs. John Boettiger.

President Roosevelt, commenting on the fact that the theatre patrons of America made over 55,000,000 vol-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Warners, Industry Lauded in Senate

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Presentation to Army Emergency Relief of $7,000,000 by Warner Brothers, representing the entire profits of "This Is the Army," is "an event almost without precedent," members of the Senate were told by Senator Chandler of Kentucky today.

Submitting Harry Warner's letter to General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, for inclusion in the Congressional Record, Chandler said the action of Warner Brothers in relinquishing the 50 per cent of the profits of the picture which was to go to them

(*Continued on page 8*)

SAG in New Move To Protect Status

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 19.—The Screen Actors Guild today drew a sharp line between straight extra work and all other acting work requiring speaking singing and stunt work, in a letter to the producers, notifying them it retains its status as exclusive bargaining agency for these classifications. The letter is an aftermath of the National Labor Relations Board election Sunday, which gave the Screen Players Union victory in the fight for control of extra players.

The letter said: "Any failure on

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ontario Adds 10% Ticket Tax to 20% Canada Levy, Jan. 1.

TORONTO, Dec. 19.—The Canadian industry received an unwelcome holiday 'package' from the Ontario Government in a notification that the 10 per cent ticket tax would be restored in the coming fiscal year in the 425 theatres of the Province, this levy having been dropped in 1937 as a nuisance impost.

The new tax is expected to provide annual revenue of $2,500,000, compared with $2,000,000 eight years ago, and its revival is said to be necessary to the public treasury to help pay for school subsidies to municipalities promised in last year's election campaign by Colonel George Drew, who is now Provincial Premier.

Since the Ontario tax was dropped, the Federal government entered the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Name-Bands Draw Heavily in Loop

CHICAGO, Dec. 19—Name-bands are still the top box office attractions in combination policy houses, the Loop's theatre operators reveal. Used primarily to bolster the drawing value of 'B' film product, bands have been responsible for heavy juvenile trade which normally would not frequent top-scale Loop houses. Nate Platt,

(*Continued on page 8*)

Lack of Funds Halts Census of Industry

Washington, Dec. 19.—U. S. Census Bureau officials here today dropped all plans for an early start on the special war census of manufactures, authoried some weeks ago by President Roosevelt to determine the output of the nation geared to war.

Their action was based on the refusal of Congress to provide necessary funds in the last appropriation bill of the session, agreed to yesterday by conferees of House and Senate.

KRS Attacks British 'Monopoly' Report

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The Kinematograph Renters Society has agreed to make representations to the Board of Trade on the latter's "monopoly" report, condemning the broad legislation proposed and the suggested establishment of a Government tribunal for regulation of the industry.

Declaring that several of the report's recommendations are based on ignorance of the industry's conditions, KRS also rejects as "repugnant" the suggestion that British distributors are imposing onerous film rental terms on independent exhibitors. The KRS, however, pledges support to the promotion of independent production.

More Theatres Can Look To Own Print Pick-ups

Cut Tariff for Film Air Express

Tariff reductions approximating 10 per cent for film and film accessory air expressage, and for other merchandise, have been made between the 727 points serviced by Northwest Airlines and All-American Aviation, Railway Express Agency reported here yesterday. The film industry is one of the largest users of air express.

The new tariff, which becomes effective Jan. 15, will bring the rates in the areas covered down to the level of the rest of the country.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Prediction of J. Monroe Johnson, Office of Defense Transportation director, of a further 50 per cent cut in the allotment of tires for civilian commercial vehicles in the first quarter of 1945, considered a blow to film and all other commercial transportation, is seen here as eventually forcing large numbers of exhibitors to resort to private print pickups where their theatres are within accessible distance to exchanges.

Many theatre owners, or their agents, started the private pickup practice early this year, using their own cars, and, in some instances, taxicabs. A wide extension of the practice is now seen as a result of a considerable number of film, delivery, and other trucks being forced off the roads early next year.

May Set Jan. Trial Date on Divorcement

Goddard to Hear U. S. And Companies Today

Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, will ask Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard today for leave to modify the consent decree made with the five producer-distributors. Industry counsel will oppose the Government plea, and, after argument, it is probable that a date for trial, possibly in January, will be set by the court.

It is understood that the industry and the Department are willing to make concessions, except on circuit divorcement; the intention of the Government is to force a trial on the divorcement issue.

At the same time, attorneys for Harry Arthur's St. Louis Amusement Co. will petition the court for leave to intervene in the decree proceedings,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Neely Cohorts Hail New Decree Plans

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—National organizations which were prominent in the fight for enactment of the Neely bills when the block booking legislation of the West Virginia Senator, who next month will become a member of the House, was up for consideration before the war, reentered the fight this week.

A letter signed by officials of seven organizations reached the desk of Attorney General Francis Biddle yesterday, urging him to stand firm in his demand for the elimination of block booking and blind selling in the consent decree proceedings now pend-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Rodgers Lists 7 for 10th M-G-M Block

M-G-M's 10th block will consist of seven pictures, William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, disclosed here yesterday. All with the exception of two have been tradeshown. In addition to the group, "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" and "Meet Me in St. Louis," each of which is being sold separately as a special, will be available in January.

The seven are: "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Main Street After

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

HARRY COHN, Columbia president, will leave Hollywood for New York Dec. 29.

•

LT. COL. ROSWELL ROSENGREN, war hero representing the Treasury Department in the Sixth War Loan Drive, will return to Washington from New York today.

•

CAPT. RAY WILD, war hero aiding the Sixth War Loan Drive, returned to Reading, Pa., yesterday for a personal appearance in connection with the Drive.

•

SGT. WILLIAM MCSPEDDEN, former manager of the Lyric, Manchester, Tenn., was married recently to EDNA BERYL WOODLEY of Bexleyheath, England.

•

LT. LEWIS LARGEY, war hero who toured with the National Committee for the Sixth War Loan Drive, left here yesterday for Los Angeles.

•

STEVE TRILLING, assistant to JACK L. WARNER, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast, accompanied by MRS. TRILLING.

•

NORTON V. RICHEY, vice-president in charge of Monogram's foreign distribution, is in Toronto and will return to New York Friday.

•

JOSEPH SCHENCK will leave the Coast Friday for Florida, where he will join his brother, NICHOLAS SCHENCK.

•

JOHN RUGAR, co-chairman for the Sixth War Loan Drive in Park City, Utah, left here for Washington yesterday.

•

STANLEY KOLBERT, general manager of the Interboro Circuit, is the father of a girl, KAREN ANN.

•

HENRY REEVE, industry co-chairman for the Sixth War Loan Drive, left here yesterday for Dallas.

•

WIN BARRON of Paramount Newsreel has arrived in New York after a trip to the Canadian West Coast.

•

ALLEN GLENN of Paramount's Dallas branch has been in Memphis on business.

Luncheon for Shirer

Columbia Broadcasting and J. Walter Thompson will hold a press luncheon for William L. Shirer, CBS news analyst who has just returned from a visit to the European theatre of war, at the Hotel Ambassador here tomorrow.

DeRochemont to Speak

Richard de Rochemont, executive producer of The March of Time, and national president of France Forever, will address the French-American Club today at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, on "De Gaulle's Dilemma."

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Dec. 19

THAT yarn, in these very parts, about 61 takes for a single scene in an attraction now being edited for the market, led to a discussion the other lunch about similar instances of recent vintage. This is what showed:

For one film, released, 168 times around on the same scene.

For another, not yet released, 151 times around. Case No. 2 concerns a picture on which so much raw stock was consumed the studio admits to 500,000 feet and then, embarrassedly, refuses to count further. The actual figure, however, is higher.

This particular phase of The Art, of course, deals with perfection and the constant pushing toward that commonly elusive state of affairs. It is commendable to try, naturally, but some of the fol-de-rol entering into the maneuvers is mere window-dressing for effect.

■

Being crassly commercial and conceding it, your observer may disqualify by his own admission. But he fails to see how delicate nuances, shadings of performance or balancing of emotions can run the gamut for 151 or 168 attempts at *ne plus ultra* results and get any appreciable distance beyond values established by a reasonable number of efforts, provided the director knows what he is about.

One of the amusing and deflationary stories told about such meticulous enterprise has to do with a very well known director. He was after something or other and tried exactly 70 times. With as complete a display of treason as perhaps may be unearthed, his staff thought it time to burst a couple of bubbles. Two takes were printed eight times apiece, joined together and unfurled for The Great Man in the projection room.

He never knew he was looking at two shots, eight times over and over again.

■ ■

Warner is saying nothing, but quietly is taking another look at unreleased product and reediting here and there for length. It is a tacit recognition of the complaints of exhibitors over attractions running from dawn to midnight.

Latest submitted to pruning is "Rhapsody in Blue." About thirty minutes are out.

Question Pinioned in Mid-Air: Will Warner actually quit the Hays organization? Or will it sit back, study what may happen between now and May—effective date of the withdrawal—and, if it likes what may happen, remain in the fold?

■ ■

Loose Coast reporting credits Paramount with having considered a releasing deal for Hughes-Sturges Prod. The answer is simple: It has not. Whether or not the yarn was a "plant," fitting into the hoary press agent pattern of keeping a client's name in print, is not established. But it could be.

It can be taken for granted, and one might even be emphatic, that Paramount is not embarking upon any additional outside units beyond its present two: Hal Wallis and Buddy De Sylva.

■

The pyrotechnics which split the ozone over this studio and Bob Hope are about to sputter, then die. Hope has a contract which Paramount expects him to fulfill. There is mutuality in maintaining pleasant relationships and contentment. What comprises contentment, naturally, depends upon the point of view as, for instance, we'd like to finish this column and get on the other side of the window where the sunshine is.

Some give and some take, in all likelihood, will play their part in the washup of the Paramount-Hope difficulty. The books are full of compromises, anyway.

■ ■

The travails of the Hollywood press agent can be very numerous.

There was a time when a producer called his loudspeaker on the long distance telephone.

"I don't see any breaks in the papers."

"What papers are you seeing there?"

"I'm not seeing any. I just have a feeling we're not getting any breaks."

That press agent no longer works for that producer.

■ ■

Whatever it was, it stopped Saturday while Hollywood migrated south to Inglewood for the big and final race of the Hollywood Park meet.

People were easier to reach by Monday morning.

U. S. Studio Labor Mediation Fails

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 19.—An attempt by the Department of Labor to end the jurisdictional dispute between the Set Decorators Union and IATSE, which caused a studio walkout two months ago, failed today when representatives of both factions, called into a session attended by producers' labor contact Victor Clark, were unable to agree on the proposed arbitration. The decorators have given notification that they will take a strike vote Jan. 6 unless the producers begin negotiations.

Way Paved for CIAA To Enter State Dept.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The Senate today confirmed the President's nomination of Nelson Rockefeller as an Assistant Secretary of State, thus paving the way for incorporation of the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, which Rockefeller heads, into the State Department as soon as war conditions permit.

The permanent activities of the Coordinator's office will be taken over by the Department, and the purely war activities will be eliminated.

Autry Case Decision In About 30 Days

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 19—Superior Court Judge Charles Haas has ended hearings on Gene Autry's suit seeking release from his Republic contract and took the case under advisement, giving both sides 20 days in which to submit briefs and indicating that a decision will be handed down in about 30 days. The case is considered important in that it will establish a precedent concerning contracts held in abeyance while players are in the Armed Forces.

Midsouth Exhibitors Will Meet on Jan. 7-8

MEMPHIS, Dec. 19.—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee will meet at the Garoso Hotel here on Jan. 7-8, J. Allen West, secretary of the Tri-State unit, has announced.

Following the business session there will be a dinner-dance at the Variety Club.

Postpone M-G-M Visits

Arrival in New York of M-G-M field office managers has been suspended to Jan. 8, according to Alan F. Cummings, head of exchange operations. Reasons are to permit the next scheduled group to remain at home for the holidays, and to allow no interference with the annual field auditors meeting at the Astor Hotel, here, during the week of Jan. 2.

MPA To Elect Today

Motion Picture Associates will meet today at the Hotel Astor, here to elect officers for 1945, according to Morris Sanders, president.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, President and Editor-in-Chief; Colvin Brown, Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Executive Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sunday and holidays by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York, 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Colvin Brown, Vice-President; Red Kann, Vice-President; T. J. Sullivan, Secretary; Sherwin Kane, Executive Editor; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Ave.; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." All contents copyrighted 1944 by Quigley Publishing Co., Inc. Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

"Make a bee-line for the Astor. There's honey inside. A ginger-peachy show. Inspires you like Vitamin 'A'!"

THAT'S BOSLEY CROWTHER IN THE N. Y. TIMES. TURN THE PAGE AND THEN GET THE STANDEE TAPES READY!

LEE MORTIMER PITIES THE HOUSE-MANAGER IN RAVE DAILY MIRROR REVIEW . . .

"I'd hate to have the HEADACHES of the house-manager trying to figure how to crowd in the customers for M-G-M's 'MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS'."

KATE CAMERON GIVES PUBLIC A GOOD STEER IN DAILY NEWS ROUSING REVIEW . . .

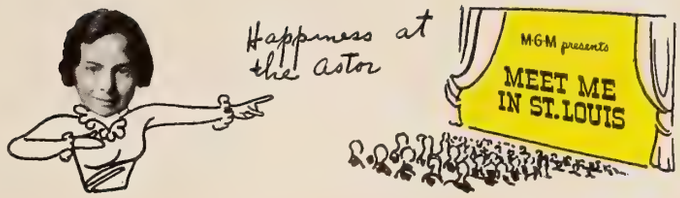
"Let me steer you to the Astor. Sheer enjoyment. A miracle of entertainment."

HOWARD BARNES IN HERALD TRIBUNE ENTHUSIASTICALLY PROCLAIMS A HIT . . .

"The Astor has a hit which amply deserves to be one. Enchanting. Heart-warming. A delight."

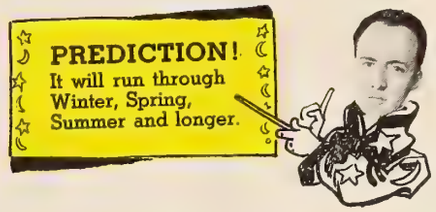
ROSE PELSWICK'S JOURNAL-AMERICAN REVIEW PROMISES JOY FOR A LONG TIME TO COME . . .

"Delightful is the word for it. Will be around for some time to come. Thoroughly entertaining show."



EILEEN CREELMAN'S WONDERFUL REVIEW IN THE SUN GIVES ADVICE ON HAPPINESS . . .

"It's hard to think where one could have a happier time than watching the Astor screen."



ARCHER WINSTEN GIVES TIP-OFF ON LONG RUN IN GRAND N. Y. POST REVIEW . . .

"It wouldn't surprise this reviewer at all to see the picture lingering through at least three seasons and longer. Go early, be prepared to stand on line."

ALTON COOK'S MARVELOUS REVIEW FEATURES SURE-CURE FOR SOURPUSS . . .

"If you happen to be troubled with sourpuss the next few weeks, a quick and sure cure can be had at the Astor. Joy unbounded."

JOHN McMANUS OF P. M. PREDICTS IMMORTALITY FOR "MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS". . .

"Always delightful, tuneful and mirthful. A real, lively American saga. Should be in for a spell of immortality."

The Business Next Page →

HIT

M-G-M's HONEY IN TECHNICOLOR

Judy
GARLAND
Margaret
O'BRIEN

"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"

MARY ASTOR
LUCILLE BREMER
TOM DRAKE
MARJORIE MAIN

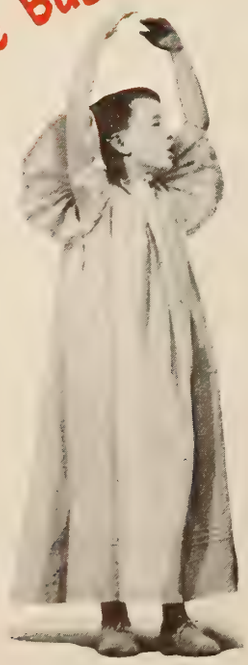
Photographed in Technicolor

Screen Play by Irving Brecher and Fred F. Finklehoffe • Based on the Book by Sally Benson

Directed by
VINCENTE MINNELLI

Produced by
ARTHUR FREED

The Business at the Astor is way up here!



TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
MGM

Bonds Buy Bombs! Sock 'em with the 6th!

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

May Set Decree Trial Date Today

(Continued from page 1)

which will be opposed by both the Government and the companies. Arthur claims that arbitration, under the decree, violates Constitutional rights. It is said that both the Government and the companies want their issues kept separate, and not encumbered with those of other parties. Arthur has another action pending in St. Louis against the American Arbitration Association and the Department of Justice charging that they have no right under the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, to make arbitration decisions legal and binding, or to force anyone to comply with them.

Government May Not Ask Interim Decree Today

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Argument tomorrow before Judge Goddard in the Federal District Court in New York may determine the future procedure on the Government's revived consent decree case.

Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, will present the Government's opposition to the motion of Harry Arthur, St. Louis exhibitor, for leave to intervene in the case, filed as part of his attack against action by the St. Louis arbitration panel on a complaint in which his theatres are a "third party" whose clearance would be reduced if the complaining exhibitor won his case. During the course of the argument, Wright is expected to bring up the question of trial of the U. S. vs. Paramount case and Department officials hope that the procedure to be followed may be determined with little delay. It was not disclosed here whether Wright would outline the Department's plans to have all issues other than divorcement segregated by a new consent decree which would apply during the period required for trial and final decision on the issue of divestiture.

War Ending? Nazis Set 72 Films for '45

The Nazis' state-controlled film industry has set production plans clear through 1945, apparently unmindful of war potentialities, lining up 72 features for the year, according to press dispatches reaching here from Stockholm, as reported by Berlin. Most of the output will be in color; some have already been started; two will be based on Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" and Strauss' "The Bat."

Ontario Will Have 30% Tax on Jan. 1

(Continued from page 1)

field by imposing a 20 per cent amusement levy based on theatres' gross receipts. The new development means payment of 30 per cent of all theatre revenue in Ontario in taxes. Exhibitors in all other provinces with the exception of Saskatchewan already pay both Dominion and Provincial amusement taxes, with theatres in Quebec carrying the heaviest burden in this respect.

SAG in New Move To Protect Status

(Continued from page 1)

your part to recognize the status of the Guild must be deemed a breach of our basic agreement." It also called on the producers to resume wage negotiations suspended pending the outcome of Sunday's election.

SAG's board on Monday night repealed a by-law prohibiting "A"-junior members from doing extra work, simultaneously inviting extra players who wish to perform dialogue, singing and stunt work to apply for "A"-junior memberships. Informed quarters see this action as preparing the basis on which SAG could supply from its own ranks atmosphere players necessary to production, independently of SPU.

Rodgers Lists 7 for 10th M-G-M Block

(Continued from page 1)

Dark," "Music for Millions," "Blonde Fever," "This Man's Navy," "Between Two Women" and "Nothing But Trouble." "Music for Millions" was tradeshown in New York and Los Angeles on Dec. 12; all other keys will have screenings on Jan. 3-4, when "This Man's Navy" will be shown in all exchanges. It is expected that the seven will be made available in the order listed, starting early in January and running through March.

'Waves' Here Dec. 27

Paramount's "Here Come the Waves," will have its world premiere at the Paramount Theatre here, Dec. 27.

Neely Cohorts Hail New Decree Plans

(Continued from page 1)

ing in the New York District Court. A two-page letter outlining the views of the organizations was signed by the American Association of University Women, the Association for Childhood Education, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, National Board of YWCA, American Home Economics Association, Girls' Friendly Society and National Women's Trade Union League.

Declaring that they have studied "with growing enthusiasm" the expanded consent decree which the Department is seeking, the seven associations declared: "We believe that the proposals set forth in the application, to be enforced in the usual way by consent proceedings and not left to exhibitor action, will accomplish the objective of our organizations and will protect the public interest.

"We have reached this conclusion because: the provision for tradeshowing pictures before they are licensed obviously will put an end to blind-selling; the prohibition against conditioning the licensing of one picture or group of pictures upon the licensing of any picture or group will eliminate the evils of compulsory block-booking; and the other provisions will neutralize the power of the monopoly and prevent a return in the future to practices to which our organizations are opposed."

(Ed. Note: Consent decree provisions requiring trade showings of new films prior to their being offered for licensing have been in operation for more than three years.)

Lovely Vera Hruba Ralston, keen with anticipation of being crowned skating queen, arrives for the spectacular Lake Placid Carnival featured in Republic's hit musical, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE."

ADVT.

Name-Bands Draw Heavily in Loop

(Continued from page 1)

Loop manager for Balaban and Katz, returned the Chicago Theatre to a name-band policy recently with Sammy Kaye's band after playing presentation house revues. Kaye, with "In the Meantime Darling" on the screen, grossed $12,000 over the house's par of $51,500. Cab Calloway followed, to be followed, in turn, by a succession of name leaders.

The Oriental has second call on bands, drawing the top leaders only when the management is willing to split the gross 50-50. Tommy Dorsey, Gene Krupa and Jimmy Dorsey played there under such deals, walking out with $20,000 to $22,000 for a week's work.

N. S. Barger's Downtown changed its policy to Negro bands recently, catering to 'Harlem trade.' B. and K.'s Regal in the Harlem neighborhood also employs Negro bands, but not on a weekly basis.

PIC to Set Plans for Foreign Publicity

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 19.—The Industry's Public Information Committee, Western division, will meet soon with a subcommittee composed of foreign department managers as the first step toward planning for publicity campaigns in foreign countries as they are opened up to U. S. films, it was learned here today.

Polio Fight Is Pledged by 87 Industry Leaders

(Continued from page 1)

untary contributions in the 1944 drive, pointed to this as a typical American effort. He emphasized what an important part this contributed money played in helping to combat the polio epidemic in some 14 states last Summer.

Industry Drive Chairman Nicholas M. Schenck presented the President with a leather-bound resolution paying tribute to the President's leadership in the polio crusade and pledging the industry's continued support "until final victory against the disease is won."

President Roosevelt indicated his close, personal knowledge of what the motion picture theatres and all branches of the industry were doing to fight infantile paralysis. He expressed gratification that the theatre drive has brought millions of Americans into the campaign with small donations. He said he realized how much work and detail is involved and expressed his appreciation to every person taking part in the industry campaign.

The gathering was probably the most representative ever assembled to discuss a topic of interest to all branches of the industry. Those present, exhibitors and association heads, represented probably 75 per cent of all the theatre seats in America. All major producing studios, distributors and trade press also were represented. The theatre crafts were represented by President Richard Walsh of the IATSE.

Schenck presented each guest individually to the President. After the Chief Executive had greeted each one, he began a running fire of conversation with those gathered around him. His introduction to Robert J. Peratrovich of Alaska reminded the President of his trip through the Arctic Territory. The President seemed deeply touched and impressed by the bound resolution and read every signature in the book.

At the North Portico of the White House, the showmen were met by a battery of motion-picture and still cameramen representing all the newsreels and syndicates. Names of the industry representatives who were present were published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Dec. 5.

Schenck, Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis; Harry Brandt, Oscar A. Doob, Tom J. Connors, Ernest Emerling and others addressed the meeting of the industry drive committeemen which preceded the visit to the White House. Later, all were guests of Carter Barron and John Payette at a party at the Hotel Statler.

Cagney Names R. and R.

Cagney Productions has named Ruthrauff and Ryan, its advertising agency here. A campaign is now being planned for "Blood on the Sun."

Warners, Industry Lauded in Senate

(Continued from page 1)

under the contract "reflects credit not only on the motion picture industry but on the whole of American industry as well, in that one of our great companies should give up a large portion of its profits to Army Emergency Relief. It is a distinguished service on the part of the Warner Company," he said.

Chandler paid tribute to all the film companies, which, he said, are insuring that service men see all the new pictures, often before they are released at home, and to "the unselfish efforts of many movie stars and lesser known entertainers in traveling by ship and by bomber to the front lines to put on shows for the men."

AMPA Has Christmas Party, Makes Awards

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers held its annual Christmas Luncheon yesterday at Toot Shor's Restaurant, here, with over 80 members and representatives of the trade press present. Honor guests included 'Skippy' Homeier and June Havoc. A war bond was won by Jack Goldstein and door prizes went to Dave Bader, Floyd Stone, and Bill Raynor, USN, formerly of PRC.

A total of $82 was raised for the AMPA relief fund by auctioning sweaters which will be donated to the wounded at Halloran Hospital, and $30 additional by auctioning books. Martha Starr, president, presided.

To The
RADIO EDITORS
of the
UNITED STATES
and CANADA

My sincere thanks and appreciation for voting the Guy Lombardo Orchestra as the Best Dance Band for the Fifth Consecutive Year in the Ninth Annual Radio Poll conducted by Motion Picture Daily for Fame.

GUY LOMBARDO
On the Air for
CHELSEA CIGARETTES
Blue Network Coast to Coast
Saturdays—10 P.M., E.W.T.

Ross Federal Service, Inc.

☆

Checking Based on Experience in Nation-Wide Coverage Meeting War-Time Problems

☆

Executive Offices:
18 EAST 48th STREET
New York City

from **REPUBLIC**

Posed by **VERA HRUBA RALSTON** *star of*
LAKE PLACID SERENADE

BLUE
Looks like
the
BLUE
is on
the way!

re it is:

1. 600 radio editors and columnists vote *six* Blue Network Stars and Shows *first* place in *Motion Picture Daily's* Annual Radio Poll.

2. The Blue is the *only* one of the networks to show an *increase* over the number of first's won last year.

3. Blue programs made this increase in spite of the fact that *fewer awards* were made this year—only 26 as against 33!

Awards are nice things to win. By themselves perhaps they don't prove so much. On the other hand, to win *more* awards while others are winning *less* would seem to prove that you're on the way.

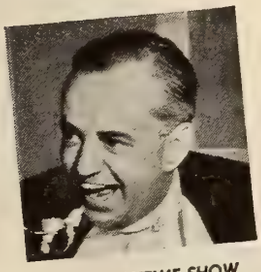
And the Blue is going to keep right on going. *Not* getting old and set in its ways. *Not* losing its pep and drive and enthusiasm for new things. *Not* lying down in a comfortable radio rut. *Not* becoming smug or arrogant.

Because that's the kind of network the people of America want. And because that's the kind of network the *people* are going to want, that's the kind of network *advertisers* are going to want when once again the floodgates of merchandise are opened and competition goes into high gear.

Better keep your eye on the Blue!

EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS TO 1944 RADIO POLL WINNERS!

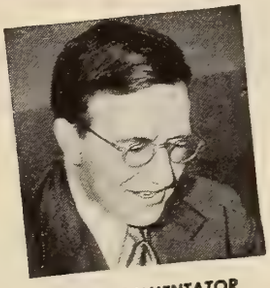
MOST PROMISING STAR
ALAN YOUNG



BEST DAYTIME SHOW
BREAKFAST AT SARDI'S

BEST DANCE BAND
GUY LOMBARDO

BEST ANNOUNCER
MILTON CROSS



BEST COMMENTATOR
RAYMOND GRAM SWING

BEST INDIVIDUAL NEWS JOB
GEORGE HICKS

THIS IS THE *Blue* NETWORK

AMERICAN BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.

we're now in *fast* company!

In one year SCREEN STARS has leaped to fifth place in a field of 15—

there's a reason...

- It's live-packed with color pages—tops in informal photos—"scoop" story every issue—and Going Hollywood with May Mann that the readers love—thousands of fan letters each month call it the best all-round screen magazine.

Print Order February Issue More Than 625,000 Copies

NOVEMBER SALES 562,000 COPIES

This issue sold 83% in 10 days—fastest newsstand pickup of any fan magazine.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 119 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1944 TEN CENTS

WPB to Push Higher Raw Stock Output

1944 Supply Fell Below Demands, Burrows Says

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Raw stock manufacturers have been urged to push their film production to the limit in an effort to meet increasing civilian, military and export requirements, the War Production Board disclosed today.

Members of the Photographic Film Industry Advisory Committee, meeting with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the photographic section, and other WPB officials, were told the output this year fell below demands and estimated requirements for 1945 are far in excess of present production capacity.

Industry representatives were asked to consider suggestions as to how

(*Continued on page 3*)

U.S. Approves RKO Pension

The pension trust plan for the benefit of employees of RKO and its affiliates has been approved by the Treasury Department, Floyd B. Odlum, chairman of the board, announced here yesterday.

"The plan covered approximately 1,925 employees during its first year ended Nov. 30, 1944," Odlum declared. "RKO contributed in excess of 0425,000 into the trust fund for benefits during the first year, and a contribu-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Richey Named by Rathvon to Drive

N. Peter Rathvon, national chairman of the industry's 'Red Cross War Fund Week of 1945,' announced yesterday the appointment of Henderson M. Richey as chairman of the drive's meeting arrangements committee.

Richey, who is assistant to M-G-M

(*Continued on page 8*)

Seven Reviews Today

Reviews of "Between Two Women" and "Lake Placid Serenade" appear on page 3; "The Fighting Lady" and "Double Exposure," page 8; "Gentle Annie," "Dangerous Passage" and "Dancing in Manhattan," page 10.

New Republic Studio Heads

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 20.—A trio of executives were named today by Allen Wilson, Republic vice-president, to supervise the company's studio activities.

Robert B. Newman, assistant secretary, will have charge of creative phases of production; Jack E. Baker, formerly with Consolidated Film Industries, will look after physical phases; and financial phases will come under Hyman J. Glick, Republic comptroller.

No Trial on Divorcement Until Autumn

Decree Hearing March 5; Arthur Motion Denied

BY EDWARD SMITH

Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard in U. S. District court here yesterday set March 5 as the hearing date on an interim decree, pending trial of the Department of Justice's suit against the producer-distributors, which in all likelihood will not get under way before next October.

At the hearing before Judge Goddard, Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, told the court that after three years of trial of the industry consent decree, it was felt by the Department of Justice that divorcement of affiliated theatres is essential and, since the defendant companies would not agree to di-

(*Continued on page 10*)

'Dimes' Drive Film Leaders at White House Meeting

Reni Newsphoto

Industry committeemen for the 1945 March of Dimes assembled on the South Portico of the White House prior to their meeting with President Roosevelt on Tuesday to discuss plans for the drive. Among those shown are: Nicholas M. Schenck, chairman; Basil O'Connor, president, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis; Gus Eyssell, C. C. Moskowitz, Charles Skouras, Harry Brandt, A. H. Blank, Sam Pinanski, Ben Kalmenson, Sam Rinzler, Oscar Doob, Richard Walsh, Frank Vennett, Herman Robbins, Ernest Emerling, John J. Payette, Albert Law, Harry Katz, Harry Kalmine, J. H. Thompson, Moe Silver, Lawrence Shenberger, E. M. Fay, Elmer Nolte and M. J. Mullin.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, NED E. DEPINET and JOHN WHITAKER of RKO have returned to New York from the Coast.

•

MIRIAM QUIRK, secretary to MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal's Eastern director of advertising and publicity, has been notified that her husband, LT. CHARLES LOCKWOOD, has been awarded the Air Medal for distinguished service in the Holland invasion.

•

SGT. STEVEN TRILLING, son of GEORGE TRILLING, will spend the holidays at home in New York, on leave from White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

•

BILL KARRER, Republic salesman in Philadelphia, will leave for Florida shortly with MRS. KARRER, who is convaleseing.

•

LOU FORMATO, M-G-M sales manager in Philadelphia, is recuperating from a tonsillectomy at Jefferson Hospital.

•

ROBERT BUCKNER, Warner producer, is due in New York this weekend from the Coast for conferences with HERMAN SHUMLIN.

•

SID KULICK, PRC's Eastern district sales manager, returned to New York yesterday from a 10-day visit in Philadelphia.

•

A. H. BLANK, head of Tri-States Theatres, Des Moines, arrived in New York yesterday from Washington and will leave today for Des Moines.

•

LEO J. MCCARTHY, PRC general sales manager, will arrive here today after a tour of exchanges.

•

ARTHUR W. KELLY, head of Eagle-Lion Films here, will be host at a company Christmas party tomorrow.

•

RUTH GOLDBERG, secretary to BEN KALMENSON at Warners, has resigned to move to the Coast.

•

H. J. YATES is scheduled to arrive from the Coast tomorrow.

Rockefeller, 4 Others Enter State Dept.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Nelson Rockefeller and four of the other five new State Department officials whose nominations were approved by the Senate yesterday were sworn into office today, with Secretary Edward R. Stettinius immediately announcing a reorganization of the Department which will place the Telecommunications Commission, headed by Francis C. DeWolf, under new Assistant Secretary Will L. Clayton.

Clayton, with Rockefeller, Archibald MacLeish and James C. Dunn, also assistant secretaries, and Joseph C. Grew, undersecretary, were sworn in by Associate Justice Reed of the Supreme Court. Brig. Gen. Julius C. Holmes, the fifth assistant secretary, is in Europe.

'Racket' Conviction Affirmed on Appeal

The Federal Circuit Court of Appeals here yesterday unanimously affirmed the conviction of six members of the Capone gang and Louis Kaufman, former business agent of Local 244 of the IATSE in Newark, who were found guilty of conspiring to extort monies from the film industry.

The court declared that the convicted men were a "ruthless and grasping crew of blackmailers and we are satisfied that the accused had an impartial trial and no honest jury could have failed to convict them. The crime struck at the heart of civilized society and its very possibility is a stain upon our jurisprudence." The convicted men were charged with extorting $600,000 from Loew's, Warner Bros., 20th Century-Fox and Paramount between 1935 and 1940, and $500,000 from exhibitors. Their trial and conviction was an outgrowth of the Willie Bioff-George E. Browne trial and they were convicted on the testimony of Bioff. Besides Kaufman, who was fined $10,000 and sentenced to seven years in prison, the others were Louis Campagnola, Paul De Lucia, Phil D'Andrea, Francis Maritote and Charles Gioe. Each had been sentenced to 10 years in prison and fined $10,000 on Dec. 31, 1943. There is no further appeal from the conviction, as the Circuit Court ruling was unanimous.

Silverstein Back at 'U's' Foreign Dept.

Maurice (Red) Silverstein has returned to Universal's foreign department here after completing an assignment in England and France for the Office of War Information's overseas film bureau.

Silverstein, on leave of absence to the OWI, was 'U's' home office representative in Brazil. It is understood that Silverstein is slated for a new foreign post.

Wise Gets Dinerman RKO Theatre Post

Nate Wise, who has been handling publicity and advertising for RKO theatres in Dayton since 1935, has been appointed RKO Cincinnati division advertising-publicity director, succeeding Edward V. Dinerman, who has resigned to become vice-president of his own advertising agency in Cincinnati, according to the RKO home office. Wise will take over his new duties around Jan. 1.

Fred Palmer, recently resigned vice-president of station WCKY is joining Dinerman in a new Cincinnati advertising agency, known as the Stokes-Palmer-Dinerman agency.

Ross in Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—H. A. Ross, president of Ross Federal Service, is due here from New York to attend a Midwest division meeting tomorrow. From Chicago he will go to Kansas City on Saturday, St. Louis on Sunday and Atlanta on Tuesday.

Sanders and Ellis Reelected by MPA

Motion Picture Associates, meeting at the Hotel Astor here yesterday, elected the following officers: Morris Sanders, reelected to the presidency; Jack Ellis, reelected first vice-president; Howard Levy, elected second vice-president, replacing Matthew Kahn; Saul Trauner, reelected treasurer; Charles Penser, reelected financial secretary; Morris Fraum, reelected recording secretary.

Also, Louis Kutinsky, elected sergeant-at-arms in place of Harry Furst; Seymour Schussel and Leo Abrams reelected trustees, and Charles Berliner, reelected chaplain.

Industry Leaders To Honor W. A. Steffes

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 20.—W. A. Steffes, Northwest exhibitor leader and retiring chief barker of the Northwest Variety Club, will be honored at a testimonial dinner at the Niccollet Hotel here Jan. 5 to which local and national industry leaders have been invited.

Steffes will be honored for his achievements during his Variety incumbency, among them a campaign which raised $90,000 for the Sister Kenny infantile paralysis fund.

Warner Bros. Pays Bonus to Workers

Warners is distributing its annual Christmas bonus to home office employes.

Employes coming under the jurisdiction of the War Labor Board, and earning $50 a week, or less, received nearly two weeks salary; employes earning $50 a week and over are limited to $50 bonuses. These employes received a bonus of a week's salary last July, all payments being similar to those made in 1943.

Pallas to Distribute Korda's Reissues

Pallas Films, of which Dan Frankel is a director and an officer, is the owner of the distribution rights to "The Scarlet Pimpernel," "The Ghost Goes West," "The Private Life of Henry VIII," "Four Feathers," "Things To Come," "The Man Who Could Work Miracles," "The Divorce of Lady X" and several other films produced by Sir Alexander Korda for London Film Productions and Alexander Korda Productions. These rights have several years to run.

Korda is handling the re-release rights to other films of his in this country.

Cohns, Other Board Members Reelected

Columbia stockholders, at their annual meeting, here, yesterday, reelected the following board of directors:

Harry Cohn, Jack Cohn, A. Schneider, N. B. Spingold, A. Montague, Donald S. Stralem and Comm. Leo M. Blancke.

RWLB Approves WB-MPOE Pact

The Regional War Labor Board here has approved a contract between Warner Bros. and Motion Picture Office Employes Local No. 23,169, AFL, covering over 600 Warner home office 'white collar' workers. MPOE also has contracts covering office workers in the Universal home office and at Paramount News. Screen Office Professional Workers Local No. 109, CIO, has contracts covering workers at the other home offices.

The RWLB, however, is understood to have declined to approve both merit increases and automatic progression increases in the new Warner contract, although an eight per cent increase, effective next August, has been approved. The company and the union are understood to be conducting further negotiations on the merit and automatic progression wage issue.

Sam Kahn of Warners has been nominated for the presidency of the MPOE, to succeed Leo Haas; Harold Kreistling and Irving Zimmerman have been nominated for vice-president, one to succeed Lou Levine; Claire Barnett, George H. Imber, Rita Wasserman and Julian Isaacs for the post of general secretary, now held by Imber; Edward Lawson and Ephraim Levy, for treasurer, a post now held by Harry Baum; recording secretary Norma Goldberg and financial secretary Lillian Cotton were renominated; Nat Salzman was nominated for sergeant-at-arms, to succeed John Cilento.

SOPEG Starts Voting On UOPW Amalgamation

Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, CIO, started distribution of ballots to its 3,000 members in the home offices of the film companies, here, yesterday, on a possible amalgamation of that local with the United Office and Professional Workers of America, Local 1, CIO which represents office workers in other industries. Deadline for the return of ballots is Jan. 1.

The meeting scheduled to be held here yesterday before the U. S. Conciliation Service, represented by Commissioner James W. Fitzpatrick, in the job classification and wage increase dispute between SOPEG and Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's and Columbia was postponed until next week. Over 2,000 of SOPEG'S members are involved.

To Premiere 'World' For Willkie Tonight

Plans for the proposed Wendell Willkie Memorial will be publicly discussed for the first time tonight by members of Freedom House at the world premiere of Lester Cowan's "Tomorrow the World," which United Artists is distributing, at the Globe Theatre here. Charles Evans Hughes, Jr., president of the Willkie Memorial, will disclose proposals for the building, which will be the headquarters for organizations fostering international collaboration, and other groups.

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Treasury Approves RKO Pension Plan

(Continued from page 1)

tion of approximately the same amount will be made shortly to cover the second year," he added. "In addition to the contributions to the trust fund group insurance coverage provided for under the plan is paid separately to an insurance company. During the first year of the plan, death benefits of approximately $55,000 were paid to beneficiaries of 15 deceased members of the plan," Rathvon concluded.

The RKO board, here, yesterday declared a quarterly dividend of $1.50 a share on its six per cent preferred, payable Feb. 1 to stockholders of record Jan. 20.

Double Appeal Filed On Boston Award

A double appeal has been entered in the Boston tribunal from an arbitrator's award ruling that maximum clearance of the Norwood and Guild theatres, Norwood, Mass., over the Strand, Canton, Mass., should be seven days, the American Arbitration Association has reported here.

Canton Amusement Co., operating the Strand, complainant, and the George A. Giles Co., operating the Norwood and Guild, and the Stoughton Theatre Co., operating the State, all intervenors, have appealed.

Thomas, Glass, Reid, McLeod on SPG Slate

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 20.—The Screen Publicists Guild last night nominated George Thomas, Thomas McLeod, James Reid and George Glass as candidates for the presidency, succeeding Teet Carle, resigned.

Paramount, RKO Christmas Parties

Paramount and RKO will hold Christmas parties today. The Paramount Pep Club will sponsor that company's party; J. L. Brown is club president. R. M. Weitman, New York Paramount managing director, will supply entertainment.

RKO's holiday party will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria, with the entire office closing at 12 noon. Luncheon will be served. The company will also host its employes at Christmas parties in each of its 38 branches.

20th Xmas Party Today

Spyros P. Skouras president, and W. C. Michel, Tom Connors, Murray Silverstone and Joseph H. Moskowitz, vice-presidents, with other 20th Century-Fox executives, will be hosts to 1,200 employees, members of the Armed Forces and representatives of the trade press at a Christmas luncheon today at the Hotel Astor. Lew Lehr will be master of ceremonies.

Party for Brandt Aids

One hundred and fifty employes and associates of Brandt Theatres will be guests of Harry Brandt at a Christmas luncheon, today, at the Hotel Astor.

Reviews

"Between Two Women"

(M-G-M)

Hollywood, Dec. 20

VAN JOHNSON is in this one, folks, and if you really require to know more about it you can read the rest of this accounting. What is more important for you to know, in case you have been away or not looking or something, is that Johnson has arrived at that point in his career, and in the personality parade, where both the juveniles and adolescents are screaming for him. This information is from the feed-box, which is to say it is based not only upon evidence that has been accruing for some while, but on the more recent testimony of a Friday night audience at the Village Theatre in Westwood, Cal., which was composed principally of 'teen-agers who turned the joint inside out, so to speak, when they found out he was in the picture to be previewed. This is the theatre in which Leo, the Lion, tests out most of his pictures, trying to find out before you do which players are on their way up and down in the esteem of the junior generation that buys more tickets than any other. And this is your advance tip-off on what they found out about Van Johnson on that Friday evening.

The picture is another in the Dr. Gillespie series, formerly the Dr. Kildare series, but it has had some things added. The standard fixtures are still present—an operation, an application of psycho-analysis, plus somewhat less than usual of Dr. Gillespie's professional whimsy—but extensive additions fore and aft present Johnson, in his Dr. Aram role, as a hard-to-get sweetheart of an easy-to-look-at blonde with millions. It is this section of the picture that sends the junior generations into rhapsodies.

Gloria DeHaven, singing a torch song like a house afire before becoming a psychic casualty, runs away with the picture while she is in it. Marilyn Maxwell plays the rich girl with the kind of zing the kids go for. Keenan Wynn clicks as a night club 'emcee' in the glamorized section. The regulars —Lionel Barrymore, Alma Kruger, Walter Kingsford, Keye Luke and Marie Blake, the latter playing a principal role this time—maintain the high standard of their work in past Gillespie films.

The original screenplay, by Harry Ruskin, weaves three plots into what passes muster for one under whatever swift scrutiny may be given it by persons, if any, not preoccupied with the presence of Johnson (although it wasn't cricket to bring that wounded gangster into the picture and call up the police department if nothing more was to be done about him). Direction by Willis Goldbeck is okay.

Never mind the story, and there is nothing in the ethics of showmanship to compel a man to advertise the picture as a Gillespie job—just about Van Johnson from the marquee and get out of the incoming customers' way.

Running time, 82 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Lake Placid Serenade"

(Republic)

WHEN BLONDE, statuesque Vera Ralston is on the ice, on her skates, "Lake Placid Serenade" achieves beauty and distinction that augurs well for the wintry box office. Miss Ralston is effectively aided by a trio of skating specialties: McGowan and Mack romping through an apache routine, diminutive Twinkle Watts, and the Merry Meisters spotted in a novelty waltz. These are the physical assets of the production, but the heavy hand of a pedestrian screenplay and uninspired gag lines, by Dick Irving Hyland and Doris Gilbert, from Frederick Kohner's original, take a toll. On ice, "Placid" soars; verbally, it plods.

Miss Ralston, champion figure skater of Czechoslovakia, is invited to attend the Lake Placid carnival in the United States. She wins acclaim for her skating, but desires to return to her homeland when it is threatened by war. She is stranded here, however, and then seeks out her uncle, Eugene Pallette. Robert Livingston, a junior partner in Pallette's business, and earmarked by Stephanie Bachelor, Pallette's daughter, for herself, succumbs to the Czech skater. After a brief separation Miss Ralston and Livingston are reunited at a Madison Square Garden ice show.

Vera Vague, Walter Catlett, Lloyd Corrigan, Ruth Terry, William Frawley, John Litel, Ludwig Stossel and Andrew Tombes are others in the cast. With an obvious eye for the marquee, Roy Rogers makes a brief appearance; also, Ray Noble and his orchestra and Harry Owens and his Royal Hawaiians are musically present. There is even an anachronistic line of hula-hula girls, sans skates. Associate producer Harry Grey assured sound production values; direction was by Steve Sekely.

Running time, 85 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

Birdwell Due Today

Russell Birdwell, New York and Hollywood public relations counsel, will arrive in New York today from the Coast to confer with Office of War Information officials regarding a series of proposed recordings to be distributed among English-speaking peoples of the world. Birdwell is expected to remain here two weeks before returning West.

Cut Bartholomew's Tax

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The U. S. Tax Court ruled yesterday that Freddie Bartholomew, former actor now in the Army, could deduct from his income tax returns the court costs of a long battle over his custody between his parents and his aunt, Myllicent Bartholomew, who raised him and was awarded custody over him.

WPB Seeks Higher Raw Stock Output

(Continued from page 1)

output could be increased and were told by one WPB official: "We must get more production of types most seriously short, but without decreasing the supply of other film classifications." The most critical item was disclosed as 35mm gun-camera film. Steps have been taken to release more camphor for film making, and the manufacturers were urged to keep their alleys running at maximum output and time.

Imposition of new controls on the distribution of sensitized paper may follow recommendations by committee members that pro-rating for its purchase be eliminated on the ground that it is not aiding equitable distribution.

Set "SYWA' Foreign Premieres for Jan.

"Since You Went Away" will have premieres in the following world capitals, it was announced here yesterday by Walter Gould, United Artists foreign manager: Havana, New Year's Eve; London's Marble Arch Pavilion and Gaumont Haymarket, Jan. 14; in two Bombay theatres, one in Calcutta and in Lima, Peru; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Colon, Canal Zone; Panama City, Panama; Caracas, Venezuela; Vina del Mar, Chile; Port of Spain, Trinidad, and Buenos Aires, Argentina, all in January.

Theatrical Showings On 'America' Off

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Theatrical distribution of Clark Gable's "Combat America," hour length film on flying fortress missions out of England, has been definitely called off. The Treasury's War Finance Division will distribute the film non-theatrically next month, and will have 300 16mm prints of the color feature for use in aiding the sale of war bonds through January.

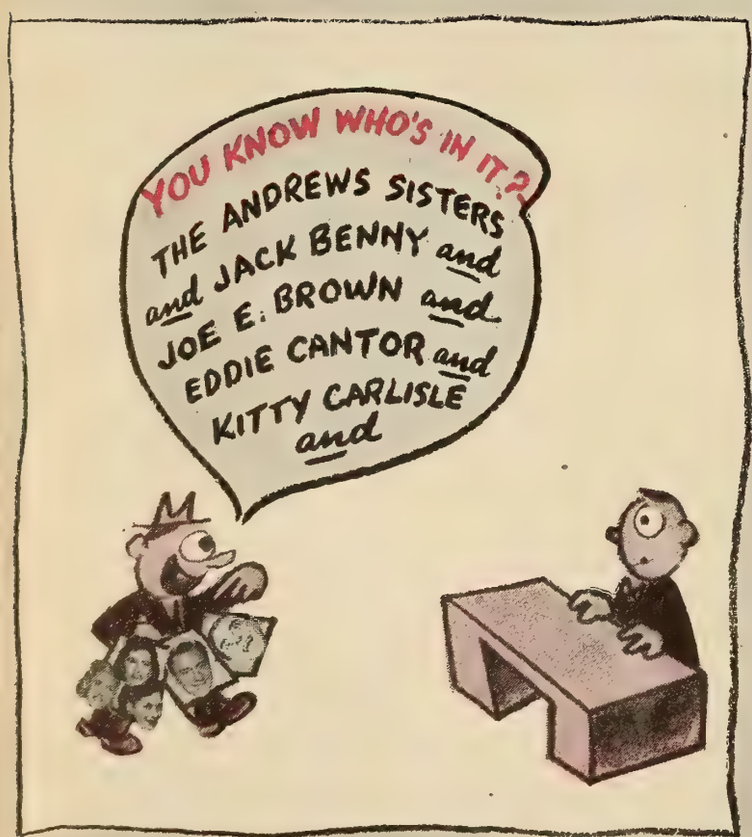
The film was withheld from theatrical release because industry and Army officials agreed it followed too closely the content of Col. William Wyler's "Memphis Belle."

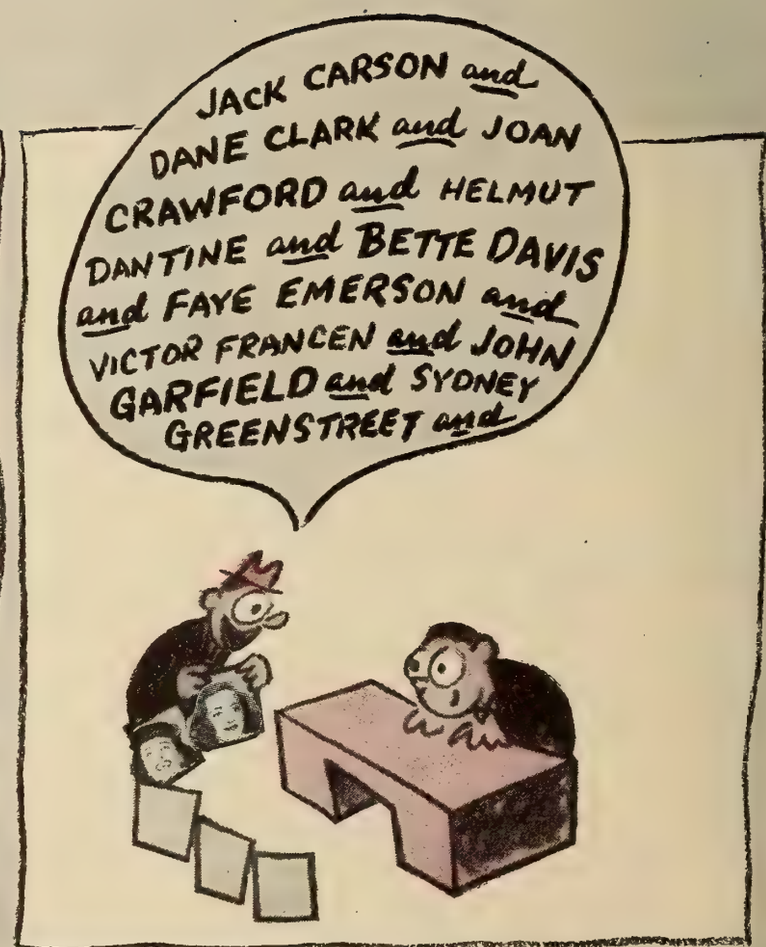
M-G-M 'Romance' Awards

Winners of war bond prizes offered by M-G-M for the best campaigns staged for the state capital premieres of "An American Romance" were announced here this week by William R. Ferguson, national exploitation manager, as follows: Mort Berman, Orpheum, Springfield, Ill.; Lou Cohen and Lou Brown, Loew's Poli, Hartford; Hugh Flannery, Orpheum, Madison, Wis.; Arnold Gould, Capitol, Jefferson City, Mo.

Monogram Signs Four

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 20.—Contracts for Monogram's 1944-45 product have been signed for the 65 Pennsylvania theatres operated by Co-operative Theatres which has headquarters in Pittsburgh, and for nine theatres of Harris Amusement. The Affiliated Circuit of New England, operating 19 houses, and the Hanson circuit, with 22 in Iowa-Nebraska, have also bought Monogram's 1944-45 product.



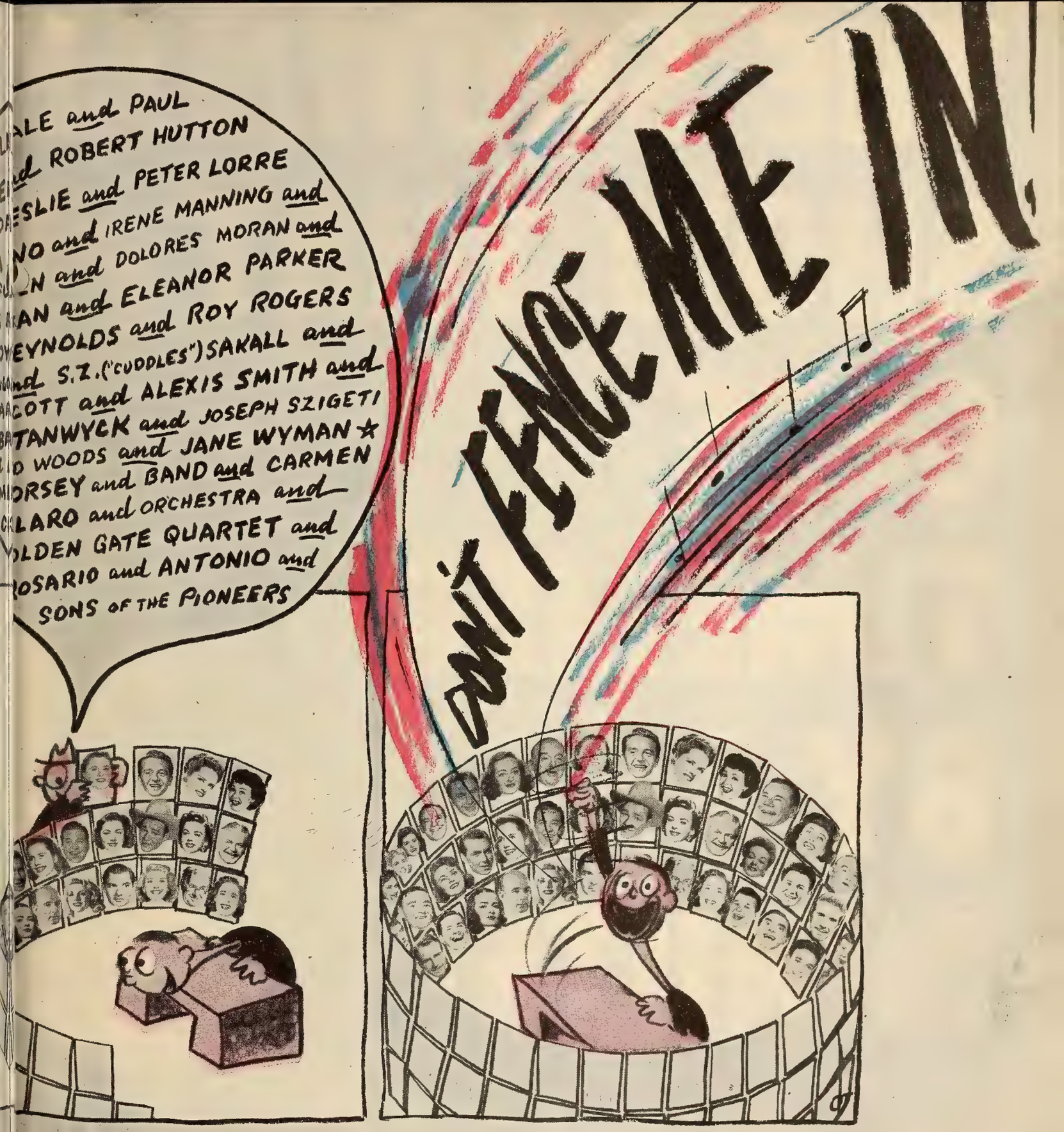


wow! wow! wow!

BIGGEST N.Y. STRAND SHOW IN YEARS AND YEARS NOW IS

SOCK 'EM WITH THE 6th!

Produced by ALEX GOTTLIEB • Original Screen Play by Delmer Daves • Musical Num



TERRIFIC SHOW — TERRIFIC TUNES!

"Don't Fence Me In", "Sweet Dreams, Sweetheart", "Hollywood Canteen", "Corns For My Country", "Tumblin' Tumbleweeds", "You Can Always Tell A Yank", "What You Doin' the Rest of Your Life"

WARNERS' HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN!

DELMER DAVES

JACK L. WARNER Executive Producer

THE SHOWMAN SHOW THAT GETS TIMELIER BY THE MINUTE!

AN EDWARD A. GOLDEN PRODUCTION • with GEORGE COULOURIS • STANLEY RIDGES • OSA MASSEN • CARL ESMOND • NANCY GATES • MORRIS CARNOVSKY • GAVIN MUIR • PAUL GUILFOYLE

Produced by ROBERT GOLDEN • Directed by HERBERT I. RIBERMAN • Screen Play by Herbert I. Riberman

S

TODAY — ten times more so than the few weeks ago when it first thundered its shock drama to the first-run screens of America — "THE MASTER RACE" becomes increasingly the "must-see" attraction for every follower of the headlines! . . . Here is the daring picture whose sensational and thrilling theme continues to inspire an endless flood of newspaper editorials, magazine articles and radio comment on "What shall we do with the Germans *after* the war?" . . . Here is the picture whose stature as important entertainment grows and grows with every showing — with each new showing adding more praise to the parade of comment which already has included reviews like: "ENGROSSING . . . SHOULD BE SEEN!" Washington Times-Herald; "TIMELY AND POWERFUL!" Cleveland Plain Dealer; "UNUSUALLY WELL-MADE PICTURE!" Time Magazine; "A VITALLY IMPORTANT THEME!" Cue; "EVERYONE SHOULD SEE IT!" St. Paul Dispatch; "STRONG . . . TIMELY . . . EXCITING!" Charm; "VALID AND MOVING!" Red Book; "FLASHES WITH EXCITING VIGOR!" Dallas News; "GENERATES TERRIFIC TENSION!" Chicago Daily News. And WALTER WINCHELL devotes an *entire column* to the brutal breed this picture so vividly portrays!

It's front-page hot and super-exploitable, so get your copy of the Pressbook NOW and GO TO TOWN!

Parade for Premiere Of 'Winged Victory'

Moss Hart's "Winged Victory," produced for 20th Century-Fox by Darryl F. Zanuck, had its world premiere at the Roxy Theatre here yesterday with the fanfare of a military parade during the day and an audience of notables during the evening, including 300 Army and Navy officials, among them Lt. General Barney M. Giles and Vice-Admiral C. Fitch. The parade, which started at 10 a.m. in midtown, marched to the Roxy, where a reviewing stand had been erected. Brig. General Ralph K. Robertson and his staff were in the reviewing stand.

Among 20th Century-Fox executives who participated in the opening ceremonies were: Spyros Skouras, W. C. Michel, Tom Connors, Joseph Moskowitz, Murray Silverstone, William J. Kupper, Hal Horne and 20 others.

All profits from the distribution and production of "Winged Victory" will go to Army charities. In a ceremony at the reviewing stand Hart formally dedicated the film to the Army Air Forces. Mayor LaGuardia followed with a eulogy in which he lauded the courage of men of the Air Forces.

'Moment' and 'Again' Are Above Par

DENVER, Dec. 20.—The Denham was the only downtown theatre to register a better-than-average gross this week. All other houses only showed average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18-21:

"The Doughgirls" (WB)
"The Unwritten Code" (Col.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"The Great Moment" (Para.)
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,000).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Hi Beautiful" (Univ.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Hi Beautiful" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,500).
"The Cowboy and the Lady" (Reissue—Film Classics)
"Resurrection" (Reissue—Film Classics)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c) 7 days, Gross: $9,300. Average: $9,300).
"Laura" (20th Fox)
"The Reckless Age" (Univ.)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

Warners, M-G-M Buy 3 Million in Bonds

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 20.—Warner Bros. and M-G-M today made corporate purchases of $1,500,000 each in Sixth War Loan Bonds, it was announced at the studios.

WAVES to See 'Waves'

Paramount will preview "Here Comes the WAVES" for 6,000 WAVES at the U. S. Naval Training School, Bronx, on Christmas Day, with four showings scheduled. Remaining radio shows in a series of seven saluting the WAVES and the picture include Bing Crosby's program heard today from NBC in Hollywood; "Truth or Consequences," on Saturday from NBC, New York, with a picture tieup, and a guest appearance by Crosby on Philco's "Radio Hall of Fame" on Sunday over the Blue network.

Reviews

"The Fighting Lady"

(20th Century-Fox)

THE home front will find this production the ultimate to date on combat in the skies. To call it the best of all feature-length documentaries about the war would be unfair to some excellent treatments of ground combat, but unquestionably it has not been surpassed. U. S. feats over Marcus Island, Kwajalein in the Marshalls, Truk, the Marianas and, finally, the Philippine Sea are here recorded in a brilliant symphony of official color pictures, centered around a typical aircraft carrier, "The Fighting Lady," and her 3,000 fighting men.

From the moment the fledglings first swoop down upon their future floating base, the screen throbs with action—interspersed with terrific suspense. They explore the intricate works, join the teeming life of the vessel as she squeezes through the Panama Canal and steams westward to an unknown fate. Then come the precision takeoffs, "dogfights" in the blue, shattering bombardments of enemy strongholds, and triumphant returns—each mission a climax that tops the one before in scope and drama.

Since most of the air footage was made from cameras attached to U. S. guns and bombsights, the spectacle is mainly of Jap installations going up in smoke, Jap cruisers blowing apart and Zeros taking the big drink, but our own losses are obliquely portrayed by crippled planes crash-landing on deck and solemn burial at sea. There is even a wisp of personalized story, about "Smoky" Stover, an ace who did not come back.

The Navy made the pictures under Comm. Edward J. Steichen's supervision. John Stuart Martin wrote a narrative which equally feeds the mind and stirs the soul, and Lieut. Robert Taylor speaks it with appropriate initial restraint and mounting excitement as the plot automatically thickens. Production collation credit goes to Louis de Rochemont for a valuable contribution to the permanent screen library of this war.

"The Fighting Lady" is short enough to work in as an added attraction on programs that normally use single features, yet long enough to stand alone. On double-feature programs, it deserves very prominent billing. It is a war film of course, grimly so—one to help, in years ahead, bridge the gap between civilians and veterans from overseas. But the aspect of modern war here developed is on the romantic side. As Taylor says, these pilots are a little like knights of old. And, oddly, the factual focus somehow surrounds them with a glamor which Hollywood, even when it takes them to heaven and back, has been too Americanly self-conscious to recreate.

Running time, 61 minutes. "G."* Release in January. TOM LOY

"Double Exposure"

(Paramount)

Hollywood, Dec. 20

LOOKING for a sleeper? Looking for a slick picture to carry an oversized kluck? Then load up on this nifty from the William Pine-William Thomas laboratory and greet the customers face to face and with confidence when they come out of the theatre. This one's got that thing—entertainment—people pay for.

There is no trying for the terrific or the timely in this undertaking. It is a story about people who perform various chores connected with the publishing of a photographic weekly, which is called "Flick" and doesn't suggest directly any of the real ones now on the newsstands, but it looks better. Chester Morris plays the editor, Nancy Kelly plays a camera-woman, and Phillip Terry plays the home-town sweetheart who follows her to New York when she goes there to work for Morris. These are fast, punchy portrayals, to which are added clever character jobs by Charles Arnt and Richard Gaines.

The script, by Winston Miller and Maxwell Shane, based on a story by Miller and Ralph Graves, strikes a high pitch of comedy at start of the film and holds it until, well along in the picture, a murder pops up and the camera-woman is charged with it. The device by which the editor traps the guilty party into betrayal of guilt is not one to be divulged in synopsis. Direction by William Berke is flawless or thereabouts.

Running time, 63 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

Legion Classifies Five New Pictures

The Legion of Decency has classified the following films: A-1, "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," 20th Century-Fox; "The Whispering Skull," PRC; A-2, "Between Two Women," M-G-M; "Castle of Crimes," PRC; "The Jade Mask," Monogram.

Lupe Velez Rites Friday

BEVERLY HILLS, Cal., Dec. 20.—Lupe Velez will lie in state for three hours tomorrow, before funeral services are held on Friday and the remains moved to Mexico City for burial.

Richey Is Named by Rathvon to Drive

(Continued from page 1)

general sales manager William F. Rodgers, and is in charge of exhibitor relations, will be responsible for arranging regional meetings with exhibitors which will precede the start of the drive next March. Richey will shortly announce members of his committee.

New St. Louis Theatre

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—The new Wellston theatre, with a seating capacity of 1,100, and costing $150,000, will be completed here in the Spring. It replaces a house destroyed by fire.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 20

THREE new production units have been set up at Columbia to handle pictures heretofore under the supervision of Irving Briskin. The units, headed by John Stone, Leonard Picker and Michel Kraike, will function under Briskin, who will also take on additional duties as executive assistant to B. B. Kahane. Rudy Flothow and Ted Richmond will work with Picker; Wallace MacDonald and Alexis Thurn-Taxis with Stone.

•

Officials of Republic Studio have instituted a search for an unknown to play the title role in the forthcoming musical, "Calendar Girl." Specifications are that she have poise and camera qualities; she need have no acting experience whatever. . . . Jack Haley and Anne Jeffreys are set for the romantic leads in "Follow Your Heart," a new musical in work at RKO. . . . Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald will be reunited by Paramount in "Duffy's Tavern," in which Fitzgerald will portray Crosby's father.

•

David O. Selznick, whose expanding production program has made necessary acquisition of greater studio space, has leased three stages at the California studios for three months. . . . Lew Landers has been signed by Columbia to direct "Until Tomorrow," third in the "Whistler" series starring Richard Dix. . . . Monogram has completed more than half of its scheduled 45 pictures for 1944-45.

•

Lee Tracy and Brenda Joyce have been signed by Universal for the romantic leads in "Gift of Gab." June Preisser draws the top comic role. . . . Dr. David L. Hutton, musical director for Patrick Michael Cunning Teleproductions, is in San Francisco surveying possible sites for the television studio which Cunning plans to open in that city.

'Harem', 'Too Many' a Buffalo Dual Winner

BUFFALO, Dec. 20.—Grosses reached new lows here this week as Buffalonians spent more money than ever before in holiday shopping, despite the wartime shortage of gifts. "Lost in a Harem" and "One Body Too Many" at the Buffalo was the lone bright spot, but even they were under average. Film Row is looking to the post-holiday period for a pickup in business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 23:

"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M)
"One Body Too Many" (Para.)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $17,400).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $16,200).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,700).
"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine" (Mono.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $12,200).
"It Happened One Night" (Col.)
"Mr. Deeds Goes to Town" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $8,300. (Average: $12,400).

VERA HRUBA RALSTON

in

Lake Placid Serenade

featuring

EUGENE PALLETTE
VERA VAGUE
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
STEPHANIE BACHELOR

with

WALTER CATLETT · LLOYD CORRIGAN
RUTH TERRY · WILLIAM FRAWLEY
JOHN LITEL · LUDWIG STOSSEL
ANDREW TOMBES

and RAY NOBLE AND ORCHESTRA
HARRY OWENS
and HIS ROYAL HAWAIIANS

Ice Specialties

McGOWAN AND MACK • TWINKLE WATTS
THE MERRY MEISTERS
with GUEST STAR

ROY ROGERS
KING OF THE COWBOYS

STEVE SEKELY — DIRECTOR
Original Story by Frederick Kohner
Screen Play by Dick Irving Hyland
and Doris Gilbert

IT'S A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Court to Aid Attempts at Settlement

(*Continued from page* 1)

vorcement, a trial of the issues would be necessary.

In order to prevent a "chaotic state" during the trial, which will last many months, Wright told the court, he desired to greatly widen the powers of the American Arbitration Association in order to keep matters in *status quo.*

Wright also said that the companies had agreed that they would not acquire any more theatres. Judge Goddard declared that he thought the companies and the Government should be able to get together to avoid the necessity for a trial, and said that if he had "to jam their heads together," he would do so to prevent the trial. It was agreed that on March 5 the attorneys for both sides will sit with Judge Goddard acting as mediator in an attempt to settle the issues. Wright told MOTION PICTURE DAILY at the close of the proceedings that he considered the chances of settlement without trial "very slim."

Asked January Date

Wright asked for a January hearing on the interim decree, but the Court was unable to hear argument in January, and the date finally agreed upon was March 5, with the Government to file a brief with the companies by Feb. 1. The reply brief of the companies is to be filed by Feb. 15. Wright objected to this, saying that he would be ready for trial of the entire case by June, but Judge Joseph Proskauer, representing Warner Bros., requested that in view of his white hairs and those of John W. Davis, representing Loew's, that he be spared a Summer trial. Judge Goddard indicated that next Fall would be the earliest he could actually hear a trial, if necessary. A date will be set for the trial on March 5. Wright also disclosed that the trial of the Griffith case in Oklahoma will start on March 12. Closing this part of the proceedings, Judge Proskauer declared, "I think it would be a terrible thing if all the labor we have been through for four years went for naught. I feel that if we sit down with your Honor as mediator we can iron this whole thing out without the necessity of a trial." Wright then agreed to have the court act as mediator, but indicated he held out little hope for settlement, especially on the divorcement issue, on which he is adamant.

Long Hardy Plea

The court proceedings had been opened with an hour's plea by Russell Hardy, representing the St. Louis Amusement Co., operators of 31 theatres in that city, for leave to intervene in the proceedings. Hardy attacked the American Arbitration Association and what he termed its arbitrary decisions, but after he finished, and Wright had hardly begun his rebuttal, the Court stopped Wright and denied Hardy's motion to intervene. Judge Goddard said, "I think on the whole that this arbitration plan has worked most successfully and I would not like to see it done away with. Your interests (St. Louis Amusement

(*Continued in column* 4)

Reviews

"Gentle Annie"

(*M-G-M*)

LAWLESSNESS and romance of the colorful Oklahoma Territory of 1900 has been chronicled in many films before "Gentle Annie," but in transferring the MacKinlay Kantor book to the screen, producer Robert Sisk has achieved an outdoor Western with an unusual twist and a genuinely heartwarming atmosphere, featuring James Craig, Donna Reed, Marjorie Main, Henry Morgan, Barton MacLane, Paul Langton and John Philliber. This film tends to reverse the usual conception of outlaws, in projecting them in what seems to be an almost sympathetic light.

The outlaws in "Gentle Annie" are Annie Goss, portrayed by Miss Main, and her two sons, Morgan and Langton. "Hankerin'" to return to Missouri, Annie becomes an accomplice with her two sons, and they hold up a train. Taking money from Northerners is no crime—to their way of thinking. The Goss family have no use for the law, especially since its minion is Sheriff Tatum, whose father killed Goss, Sr., in a feud. Craig, a U. S. marshal, is assigned to ferret out the train robbers. The Gosses befriend not only him but Miss Reed, who is without funds and also possessed of a "hankerin'" to get back to Missouri. It falls upon Craig to perform the unpleasant mission of arresting his hosts but not before Annie has been killed by Sheriff Tatum who, in turn, is killed by one of the Goss brothers. In the end the remaining Goss brother accepts his punishment and Craig gets the girl, Miss Reed.

Andrew Marton has directed the simple, homey story with intelligent restraint and has captured the rich warmth of the characters to such an extent that even in their most menacing moments, sympathy is sustained for the Goss boys. Their lawlessness is prompted by their desire to bring happiness to their mother. Lawrence Hazard's screen play provides a good framework for the action and the overall result is good screen entertainment for both young and old alike.

Running time, 80 minutes. "G."* No release date set.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

"Dangerous Passage"

(*Paramount*)

"DANGEROUS PASSAGE" is a sea story of no mean proportions. In one wide sweep it takes in an insurance racket, a legacy intrigue and an appealing love story, all in the familiar Pine-Thomas fashion. No minute is without its distinguishing bit of action, and it is not unsafe to assume that "Dangerous Passage," with all of its action and excitement, and an abundance of promotion possibilities, will be a box office success.

Robert Lowery, on his way to the United States to collect an inheritance, meets Phyllis Brooks, who has pledged her assistance to Alec Craig in an attempt to destroy an insurance racket which has claimed other ships on the same route.

William Edmunds, the ship's captain, deliberately wrecks his vessel at sea, but the entire racketeering crew is lost, due to a slip by Edmunds. Miss Brooks, Lowery and Charles Arnt and Jack LaRue, who are scheming to claim Lowery's legacy, are saved, and, at a crucial moment all four are rescued by a passing plane. Arnt and LaRue are outsmarted, and Lowery and Miss Brooks decide to 'share the spoils'—for keeps.

A competent cast rises above incredibilities of the story. Special credit is due Charles Arnt for his excellent portrayal of the vicious, but always smiling, schemer. William Berke directed, from a screenplay by Geoffrey Homes. Fred Jackman, Jr., handled photography very capably. William Thomas and William Pine produced.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* Released in block three.

HELEN MCNAMARA

"Dancing in Manhattan"

(*Columbia*)

Hollywood, Dec. 20

ALTHOUGH there is one spot of floorshow entertainment in this little number, the title is not to be interpreted as indicating it is a musical. On the contrary, the title derives from the fact much of the comedy takes place in a swank night club where a young garbage collector and his sweetheart go to dance after he has come into possession of marked money which is being trailed by the police and by a blackmailer who had it, briefly, before the g. c. found it and started spending it.

The tale is as simple as that—boy finds money in garbage, dresses up and takes girl out for big evening, has to give up money, ultimately, but retains girl—and is used as a story line from which to append sequences that provide mild amusement. Fred Brady, Jeff Donnell, William Wright, Ann Savage, Cy Kendall, Howard Freeman, Eddie Kane, Sally Bliss and Adelle Roberts are among the players.

Production is by Wallace MacDonald, direction by Henry Levin, and Erna Lazarus wrote the screenplay.

Running time, 60 minutes. "G."* Release date, Dec. 28.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

MGM Promotes Rochlin

Nat Rochlin, M-G-M office manager in Atlanta, has been promoted to the home office.

Brandenburg Dies

ATLANTA, Dec. 20.—W. L. Brandenburg, veteran film man and theatre owner, died here recently.

U.S. Considers Peace Chance 'Very Slight'

(*Continued from column* 1)

Co.) are represented by the Attorney General, and if I allowed you to intervene I would have to allow many others who would want to also."

In pleading his case, Hardy declared that the AAA was supported by the consenting companies and to support this theory he stated that the costs of the AAA, totaling $1,500,000 over a three-year period, had been borne entirely by the consenting companies. He declared that the Department of Justice had admitted its decree was a failure by asking for a modification of it, and said that its plea to eliminate clearance entirely, after once declaring that clearance was most important, showed that the Department did not know what it was doing. He stated that exhibitors all over the country would be ruined by the capricious application of arbitration from which there is no appeal, and the enforcement of rulings was in the hands of the defendant companies who would refuse product if the ruling was not lived up to. He stated that 72 per cent of all cases before local tribunals were clearance cases and went into the history of his own action in St. Louis to attempt to show unfairness in decisions.

Rebuttal Unnecessary

Wright had hardly started rebuttal when the Court declared it was unnecessary and denied Hardy's plea. One of Hardy's points was used later on, however, by Wright, in asking for his interim decree. The U. S. Attorney declared that unless the AAA would continue to act throughout the actual trial, its functions for the industry would be over and, therefore, he was asking for a widening of its powers to enable it to act as a watchdog during the trial.

Present in court were attorneys from the firms of Donovan, Leisure, Newton and Lumbard, for RKO; John W. Davis and J. Robert Rubin for M-G-M; Joseph Proskauer and R. W. Perkins for Warner Bros.; Dwight, Harris, Koegel and Caskey for 20th-Fox, and Austin Keough for Paramount. J. Noble Braden represented the AAA.

Warners Go Along

It was stated also by both Wright and Judge Proskauer that no attempt had been made by any company to effect a separate settlement in the case. Meetings had been held with the five companies, it was stated, but never with any company alone. It had been reported that Warners had sought to make a separate settlement, but Proskauer denied this was true.

George Kellogg Dies

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 20—George W. Kellogg, 84, retired Eastman Kodak employee who took part in the filming of the first motion picture of a championship prize fight, died here this week. Kellogg, who joined Eastman in the 1890's, was one of those sent to Carson City, Nev., in 1897 to film the Jim Corbett-Bob Fitzsimmons bout. His sister survives him.

LITTLE MAN...

you've had a busy season...

but time out for

Holiday Greetings!

It's been a good year. Universal is grateful during this holiday season to know that it has added many good friends. We send our warmest holiday greetings to everyone in the motion picture industry. Good luck for 1945.

JUST A MINUTE PLEASE!

HERE'S ANOTHER SLICE OF M-G-M's BOUNTIFUL ANNIVERSARY CAKE!

MARGARET O'BRIEN

JOSE ITURBI

JIMMY DURANTE

JUNE ALLYSON

Oh! What a picture!
Winding up in a blaze of glory
Leo's Twenty Year Anniversary!
One after another as the year ends:
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo"
"Meet Me in St. Louis"
"National Velvet"—
And now one of the Greatest!
"MUSIC FOR MILLIONS" has heart-glory!
It's got Stars in a grand story
Of lovable human beings.
The Trade Press is cheering it!
Watch the Capitol, N. Y., World Premiere!

"MUSIC FOR MILLIONS" starring Margaret O'Brien • Jose Iturbi Jimmy Durante • June Allyson • Marsha Hunt • Hugh Herbert • Harry Davenport • Marie Wilson • Larry Adler • Original Screen Play by Myles Connolly • A Henry Koster Production • Directed by Henry Koster • Produced by Joe Pasternak • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

MGM

Keep Selling Bonds!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 120 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1944 | TEN CENTS

Video Quality Not Ready for Screen: Cahill

Says Theatres Require Better Definition

Exhibitors will not use television programs in their theatres until they achieve a picture quality on the theatre screen equally as good as regular film programs, according to Frank E. Cahill, Warner Theatres' sound director, who is currently studying theatre television developments for Warners.

Film theatres, however, would not be reluctant to accept even poor picture-definition to bring televised spot news events to their screens, Cahill added, if

(*Continued on page 7*)

Hollywood Scares Parliament Again

LONDON, Dec. 21.—During yesterday's films' debate in the House of Commons, which ended in approval being voted the Board of Trade's new Films Quota provisions reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Dec. 13, J. Arthur Rank's new production, "Henry V," came in for the unprecedented distinction of being the first motion picture to be advertised in Commons.

Two members, urging the whole

(*Continued on page 2*)

Coast Guild Halts Merger of '4-A's'

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—Although the Screen Actors Guild views the proposed merger of Four-A affiliates representing all actor guilds in a favorable light generally, the organization will wait a while—specifically until television gets going—before entering into the project, according to a report in *The Screen Actor,* guild house organ.

It is felt that the headquarters of

(*Continued on page 8*)

No Paper Monday

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published on Monday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day and a legal holiday.**

Gilliam's Solution For Film Shortage

Chicago, Dec. 21.—Taking a purely local step to relieve a product shortage, Tom Gilliam, manager for 20th-Fox here, has set up a full re-issuing schedule to help fill vacant gaps on exhibitors' booking sheets.

Gilliam says he finds that an organized effort and set schedule on the part of a sales office works toward the mutual benefit of distributor and exhibitor.

Layups Cause Large Raw Stock Losses

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The annual cleaning and repairing of machinery in the raw stock manufacturing plants in the third quarter of this year knocked at least 16,000,000 feet of film out of the period's production, it was disclosed here today by the U. S. Census Bureau.

The output for the three months

(*Continued on page 7*)

Companies of U.S., Britain to France Early in New Year

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—American and British film companies will go into France on a commercial basis at the same time, probably early next year, under arrangements now being discussed by British and American authorities, it was disclosed here today by Edward W. Barrett, director of the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information.

Just returned from an inspection of

(*Continued on page 7*)

Loew Leaving OWI To Return to MGM

Major Arthur M. Loew, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution for Loew's, Inc., now on leave, will relinquish his post as associate chief of the Office of War Information's overseas motion picture bureau, to return as head of Loew's foreign department shortly after Jan. 1, it was

(*Continued on page 8*)

49,721 Gift Prints Sent Overseas, Hays Reports

Nearly 50,000 prints—24,188 features and 25,533 short subjects, have been contributed to the military forces of World War II by the industry through its War Activities Committee, Will H. Hays, president of the MPPDA, disclosed here yesterday in commenting on film phases of the industry's war - participation, reflecting discussions at this week's quarterly meeting of the MPPDA board, at which Hays presided. "The essential contribution made by motion pictures to morale has been conclusively demonstrated by the record of the screen in this war," declared Hays, adding: "The inspiration of pictures has proved as great a force in foxholes as in theatres."

Will H. Hays

"Beginning with six prints, the Army has increasingly availed itself of the 16mm (industry gift) film program donated for soldiers in combat areas until today it requires 106 prints of each feature," he said.

"Another item worthy of note," Hays continued, "is that we not only have been able to keep a steady stream of product coming from our studios, but we have exhibited it to a larger audience than ever before. In view of the world situation, resulting in the elimination of that large segment of the foreign audience in enemy

(*Continued on page 7*)

Merry Christmas

SCTO Gives Conciliation Plan to U. S.

Roundtable Proposal to Distributors Tuesday

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Proposals of the Southern California Theatre Owners for the conciliation of trade practice disputes were laid before Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge and his associates in the Department of Justice anti-trust division today by Albert J. Law, counsel for the organization.

Law, who spent most of yesterday and today at the Department discussing the consent decree case, said tonight that the

(*Continued on page 8*)

Columbia's Net Is Down to $380,000

Columbia Pictures' net profit for the 13 weeks ended Sept. 30 was $380,000, compared to a net of $482,000 for the same period in 1943, the company disclosed here yesterday.

Operating profit for the 13 weeks was $1,065,000, compared to $1,545,000 for the 1943 period. Estimated provisions for Federal taxes were $685,000 compared to $1,063,000 in the 1943 period.

Studio Decorators Case Back to U.S.

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—The jurisdictional dispute between the Screen Set Decorators, Local No. 1,421 and IATSE Local No. 44, has been referred to the U. S. Conciliation Service for possible settlement, with Commissioner Earl Ruddy trying to seek a solution. William Green, AFL

(*Continued on page 7*)

Six Reviews Today

Reviews of "The Suspect" and "The House of Frankenstein" appear on page 7; "The Mummy's Curse," page 9; "The Utah Kid," "The Unwritten Code," "Castle of Crimes," page 10. *Motion Picture Daily's* booking chart appears on page 12.

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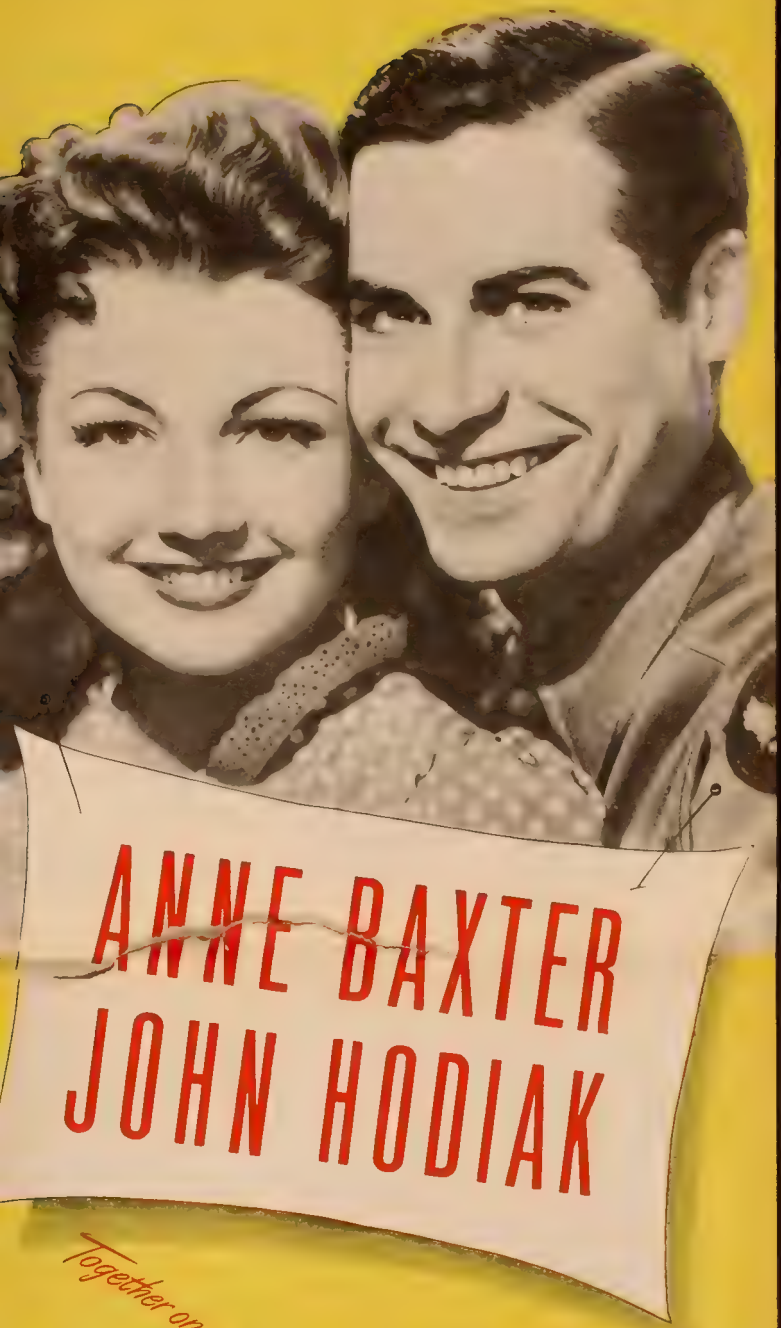

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Robert Bailey · Bobby Driscoll · Jane Darwell

DIRECTED BY PRODUCED BY

LLOYD BACON · WALTER MOROSCO

Screen Play by Wanda Tuchock and Melvin Levy

Based on a Story by Martha Cheavens

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

20th CENTURY-FOX

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PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Video Quality Not Ready for Screens

(Continued from page 1)

competition with home television arises before television programs achieve good picture definition.

"If television has value to theatres as entertainment, the film industry will go for it," Cahill declared. "Otherwise it will develop as an adjunct of the radio industry," he said, adding that television has definitely not reached the stage where it can compare with motion pictures in theatres.

"The public will follow the crowds for their entertainment rather than sit at home by a television receiver," Cahill believes.

People Who Can Sell

"The film industry has people who know how to properly merchandise television entertainment," he said. "Television still requires considerable improvement," according to Cahill.

Cahill reported that Warners is watching television developments with an open mind, but has made no commitments for any equipment. He recalled that the company planned to use RCA theatre equipment in the Mastbaum Theatre in Philadelphia in 1941 when those plans were abandoned because of the Army's taking over facilities.

Warners plans to coordinate its television broadcasting activities on the West Coast with its radio broadcasting activities, headed by Major Nathan Levinson, provided the Federal Communications Commission grants the company permission to construct a telecaster in Hollywood which has been applied for.

Disney - CIAA Film On RCA Video Show

"Winged Scourge," produced by Walt Disney for the office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, will be televised on the premiere of the new RCA-Victor series of television programs which start this evening over NBC telecaster WNBT.

The programs will be a regular Friday night feature, combining films and 'live' talent.

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(Continued from page 1)

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(Continued from page 1)

countries, this is a remarkable record.

"Also," said Hays, "film service has continued to the many 'shut-ins,' elderly people in homes, prisoners, children in orphanages and patients in hospitals, including, through the cooperation of the American Red Cross, the men who suffered war disabilities."

Reviews

"The Suspect"

(Universal)

WITHOUT MINCING words, Arthur T. Horman's adaptation from James Ronald's novel, magnificently transcribed to the screen by Bertram Millhauser, brilliantly directed by Robert Siodmak, who draws from Charles Laughton what is undoubtedly one of the finest characterizations of the latter's career, all combine to make "The Suspect" a superb thriller that will deeply impress audiences with its suspenseful narrative, and will easily vault it onto top rungs of the boxoffice ladder.

Here is a flawless cinema with all its varied arts combining to make a multiple appeal; a poignant love story, two violent murders and the grim lure of the hunter and the hunted. Laughton, whose name has high standing in the world's film markets, returns to the screen after a brief absence, in a meaty role that is different from his usual blustering portrayals. His is the tale of an essentially kindly man who is prompted by circumstances to kill a fellow human, and is then impelled to kill again to cover up his initial slaying.

An unhappy marital relationship with Rosalind Ivan is culminated when her shrewish tongue drives his son, Dean Harens, from their middle-class home in England at the turn of the century. Embittered by this act, Laughton removes himself to quarters formerly occupied by his son. His sense of loneliness drives him into an innocent relationship with Ella Raines, a young woman whom he has befriended. Denied a divorce by his wife, he gently breaks off his association with Miss Raines when he realizes that he can't marry her, and attempts to salvage something of his life with his vinegary spouse. When his wife reveals her knowledge of his past friendship for Miss Raines and threatens to inform his employer, Laughton is goaded at last into committing the act which has been hinted at, and cleverly built up to—the murder of his wife.

An inspector from Scotland Yard, Stanley Ridges, enters the drama sniffing a murder, despite a coroner's verdict of death by accident. The suspense swiftly mounts as the two shadow box, with Ridges desperately trying to unearth some new evidence so he can confront Laughton with the crime—and a motive. Laughton cleverly checkmates Ridge's hope of obtaining evidence by marrying Miss Raines, who then, by law, is prevented from testifying against her husband. The second murder is committed against Henry Daniell, who had attempted blackmail. Laughton, who has succeeded in eluding the grim Ridges and is about to sail away to Canada with his new wife and his son, is the prisoner of his essential decency and leaves the ship to give himself up when he hears that Daniell's wife, Molly Lamont, is incriminated in the death of her husband.

Producer Islin Auster has assembled a strong supporting cast in Miss Raines, who is highly appealing; Ridges; Daniell's portrayal of the drunken blackmailer; Miss Ivan, whose tongue bites like a bullwhip; Miss Lamont, and Raymond Severn, Eve Amber, Maude Eburne and Clifford Brooks, in lesser parts. Paul Ivano's photography accentuates the mood and Frank Skinner's score is fitting.

Running time, 85 minutes. "A."* Release date, Jan. 26.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"A" denotes adult classification.*

"House of Frankenstein"

(Universal)

PRODUCER Paul Malvern has developed from a combination of macabre legends and characters what approaches a record for blood-curdling shockers. "Chiller" fans will be treated to a nerve-trying hour with the Monster and his no-less interesting contemporaries, the Wolf Man, played by Lon Chaney; Dracula, by John Carradine, and the Hunchback, to which J. Carrol Naish gives excellent and extremely effective characterization.

The audience is transported from the realm of reality to a mythical continental town with an eerie setting for Boris Karloff's mad antics, as set forth in Edward T. Lowe's screenplay, based on a story by Curt Siodmak. Karloff, who lends his usual fine characterization, is an embittered scientist bent upon unleashing Frankenstein's terrorizing powers. He digs from the ice-locked ruins of a doctor's castle, the frozen bodies of the Monster, Glenn Strange, and the Wolf Man. The evil plot is foiled, first by Peter Coe, who drives Dracula back into his coffin for keeps; second, by Elena Verdugo, lovely Gypsy girl who loves Chaney enough to kill him and die by his side, and, finally, by the vengeful townspeople, who drive Karloff and the Monster back into the swamps where the cameras record their sinking into quicksand.

For Erle C. Kenton, who directed, the film is an unmistakable achievement of its type. He draws from the cast a well projected feeling for each role. For those who like horror in their film fare—this is it, undiluted.

Running time, 70 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Dubbing Soviet Film

The Russian film "Wait for Me" will be dubbed in English for American release early in February, by Artkino Pictures here. Second Russian picture to be dubbed in the U. S., "Wait for Me" stars Boris Blinov who also appeared in "The Girl From Leningrad" and "This Is the Enemy," and Valentina Serova, Simonv's wife.

Benefit for Wounded

Bob Weitman, James Sauter, Bert Lytell and Paul Dulzell are among film and radio personalities sponsoring a "Salute to the Wounded," benefit at Madison Square Garden on Jan. 9, proceeds of which will go to Chaplains' funds of military hospitals to supply 'little luxuries' to wounded veterans.

Companies of U.S., Britain to France Early in New Year

(Continued from page 1)

OWI operations in France, Barrett was enthusiastic over the success that is attending the efforts to inform the French people of the events of the past four years and the part America has played in the war. Motion pictures, radio, leaflets and books are being used, he said.

Barrett disclosed that a very substantial number of French theatres now are operating, although precariously because of the shortage of electric power. Their programs consist of American and British informational and commercial features. OWI short subjects are popular, and the agency recently has made an arrangement to have some of its news pictures incorporated in the French commercial weekly newsreel, he added.

Currently, he said, OWI is anxious to have the French see the "Battle of Midway" and other pictures of the war in the Pacific, regarding which they were without real information until France was liberated.

Barrett disclosed that William S. Paley, president of Columbia Broadcasting, who is head of European radio operations, has been asked by the military authorities to undertake several important campaigns to correct erroneous impressions among the French about the United States.

Shirer Cites Power, Heat Lack in Paris

Recurring failure of electric power and the lack of heat is causing more of a hardship for Paris than the food situation which is not too bad, William L. Shirer, CBS news analyst who recently returned from the European theatre of the war, declared at a press luncheon at the Hotel Ambassador here yesterday.

Shirer was introduced at the luncheon tendered him by CBS and J. Walter Thompson advertising agency by Paul White, CBS news director. Also seated on the dais were Major George Fielding Elliot, Quincy Howe, Norman Corwin, Everett Hollis, Douglas Edwards, Wick Crider and George Crandall.

Layups Cause Large Raw Stock Losses

(Continued from page 1)

ended Sept. 30 was 142,640,000,000 feet, against 158,639,000,000 feet in the preceding period and was less than 400,000 feet above the first quarter output, before last Spring's additions to facilities came into operation, the bureau reported. Production in the third quarter of 1943 was 129,136,000,000 feet.

The report disclosed that shipments continued ahead of production, as they have consistently since the beginning of the year, making it necessary to take 3,500,000 feet out of inventories accumulated in 1943.

Military, lend-lease and export requirements took approximately 55,610,000 feet of total production in the third quarter, against 43,860,000 feet in the corresponding period last year. However, the bureau explained, much of the film which went to commercial laboratories ultimately was used additionally for the Armed Forces.

L. A. Shops for Gifts, Films Hit Very Hard

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21.—The town went shopping for gifts, not pictures, in an otherwise favorable week of Mid-Summerish weather, all grosses reflecting the preoccupation of the public with the business of giving. Particularization of the bad news, appended hereto statistically, would serve no good purpose, as people displayed no favoritism in choosing attractions to stay away from.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 20:

"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
"Dancing in Manhattan" (Col.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,900).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN — (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
"Dancing in Manhattan" (Col.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,200).
"Destiny" (Univ.)
"She's a Sweetheart" (Col.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,700).
"Master Race" (RKO)
"My Gal Loves Music" (Univ.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $16,650. (Average: $18,500).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
"Dancing in Manhattan" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $29,300).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $25,000).
"Master Race" (RKO)
"My Gal Loves Music" (Univ.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,770. (Average: $15,300).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
"One Body Too Many" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD — (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 8 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,900).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
"One Body Too Many" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 8 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,500).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
RITZ — (1,376) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,500).
"An American Romance" (M-G-M)
"Dancing in Manhattan" (Col.)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,500).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,011. (Average: $16,700).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,497. (Average: $18,700).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,884. (Average: $15,800).

WB Chaplain Story

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—Warners will film "Four Men of God," story of four chaplains who sacrificed their lives to save four soldiers when the transport *S.S. Dorchester* was torpedoed last February. Arrangements to make the film were made by executive producer Jack L. Warner and Rev. Daniel Poling, head of the Army chaplains' services and father of one of the four who died.

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SCTO Conciliation Plan Is Laid Before Justice Dept.

(*Continued from page* 1)

plan to call in all parties in a dispute for a frank discussion of their problem, resorting to arbitration only in the event it could not be conciliated, had been received with interest and favorably commented upon.

The plan will be laid before the distributors of New York next Tuesday, he said, and he would ask that they give it careful consideration as a possible way out of the uncertainties of the decree-established arbitration system, which is expensive and cumbersome.

During his conversations at the Department, Law explored all phases of the decree situation and left with the conviction that the Government will not swerve from its determination to divorce exhibition from distribution. Since his organization draws its members from both the independent exhibitors and the circuits, he explained, sentiment as to the desirability of divorce differs, but on the whole, Southern California exhibitors are probably less intensely interested in the matter than those in the East, where the pressure of distributor-owned circuits is much heavier.

Similarly, he said, his association has watched the Crescent case, recently decided by the Supreme Court, but has taken no position on the issues, since they do not apply in the California territory, where Fox West Coast, the largest circuit and a member of the organization, has adhered rigidly to its rule of not invading exhibitors established in good locations.

Most of the exhibitors in his area, Law said, would feel that most of their difficulties had been solved if the distributors sold to all theatres, circuit and independent, on the same terms.

Law explained that a major purpose of his week's stay in Washington was to present the association's views on the decree case to the Department officials in charge. "We want the Department to get the full picture of all the facts before it acts, so that its action, when taken, will do some good," he said.

Tomorrow, Law will visit officials of the War Production Board, taking up with them the theatre construction boom which is foreseen in Southern California after the defeat of Germany. Already, he said, there are indications that a very large number of theatres will be constructed, and the WPB will be urged to go slow in granting permits, so as to prevent what otherwise might develop into an impossible competitive situation. He admitted, however, that building can be kept under control only so long as the war regulations are maintained, and said that once the limitations are lifted West Coast exhibitors may find themselves engaged in a building race which may lead to difficulties.

Loew Leaving OWI To Return to MGM

(*Continued from page* 1)

learned yesterday. Loew is now on vacation in Mexico.

Major Loew joined the Army Signal Corps Pictorial Service in May, 1942, and was stationed at the Photographic Center in Astoria, L. I. He was assigned by the Signal Corps to duty with the OWI, becoming associate to Robert Riskin, chief of the bureau, supervising distribution of OWI psychological films and regular Hollywood product in the liberated countries.

Recently, Major Loew, who was in the New York office of the OWI film bureau, was placed on inactive status by the Army.

Mort Spring has been acting manager of Loew's foreign department in Major Loew's absence.

Coast Guild Halts Merger of '4-A's'

(*Continued from page* 1)

the merged organizations in New York would set up a barrier of time and distance prejudicial to a complete understanding of actor problems in Hollywood. It is also believed that benefits sought by Eastern unions through a merger can be had by them without Screen Guild participation. But the chief objection to merging at this time is phrased, "It would be inadvisable to formulate with any finality a jurisdictional policy with respect to television until the medium has been further developed."

Discussions regarding the merger are to continue at a future date, when Eastern representatives of the Four-A's are to visit here.

'San Diego' Is Only Run Above Average

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 21.—The Circle, expecting $15,000, led box office receipts here this week, showing "San Diego, I Love You" with Frankie Carle's band on the stage. Grosses in all other houses dropped because of Christmas shopping.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 19-22:

"San Diego, I Love You" (Univ.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Frankie Carle stage show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,600).
"Buckskin Frontier" (UA)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $5,000).
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (35c-55c) 9 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"Dark Mountain" (Para.)
LYRIC — (2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, after one week at the Indiana. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,900).

Paul Porter Sworn In

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Paul Porter, Democratic National Committee publicity chief during the fall campaign, took the oath under a recess appointment today as chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, succeeding James Lawrence Fly, resigned.

Anderson to Build

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Anderson Theatres of Morris, operating 11 houses in Northern Illinois, has completed plans for the construction of the Moderne Theatre in De Kalb, to seat 1,200. Construction will begin when the War Production Board approves.

9 Philadelphia First Runs Slump; Only 'Harem' Is Over Par

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21.—Box-offices are feeling the effects of preholiday shopping with business in downtown houses remaining away off. Holdovers and second runs are predominating, with the only major opening, "Lost in a Harem," at the Fox, indicating $23,800 and an additional $3,000 already taken in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 20-22:

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $7,500. Average: $14,600).
"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO Reissue)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $4,000).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,200. (Average: $18,000).
"National Barn Dance" (Para.) 6 days
"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (40c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Shep Fields' band, Meredith Blake, Gene Martin, Tommy Lucas, Glenn Miller Modernaires with Paula Kelly, Cliff Nazaro and Tari Vance. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $27,600).
"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,800. (Average: $20,500).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $6,600).
"Brazil" (Rep.)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,800).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
MASTBAUM — (4,700)(40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,500).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $20,000).
"The Man in Half Moon Street" (Para.)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,400).

'Till We Meet' Meets And Beats Shopping

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21.—The week before Christmas along with holdovers and only average attractions, are keeping box-offices from being busy. Even openings were below par. Best of the current figures lean toward "Till We Meet Again."

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 21:

"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c) and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Till We Meet Again" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Something for the Boys" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000).
"The Sign of the Cross" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000).
"Woman in the Window" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. New stage show: Whitey Roberts, Terry O'Donnell, Gilbert & Lee, Four Pin-Up Girls, Jack Joyce and Claire Norman. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,500).
"The Unwritten Code" (Col.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,000).

Two More for Brandt

Brandt Theatres have expanded their realty holdings in the Times Square Section through the purchase of two more houses: the Liberty and Eltinge on W. 42nd St., it was learned last night.

K.C. Houses Drop to Lows from Shopping

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 21.—Christmas shopping dragged the week's grosses to low levels.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 19-22:

"The Climax" (Univ)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,400).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
MIDLAND — (3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,000).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
NEWMAN — (1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Song of the Open Road" (UA)
"It Happened Tomorow" (UA)
ORPHEUM — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).
"The Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
"The Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)
TOWER—(2,000) (39c-65c) 7 days. Stage Revue. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,400).
"The Climax" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,600).

'Caballeros' in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 21.—"The Three Caballeros," Walt Disney's new RKO feature, had its world premiere here tonight, attended by ranking officials of South American countries. The film is Disney's first venture in using 'live' performers with animated figures.

Blatchford's Mother Dies

HAMPTON FALLS, N. H., Dec. 21.—Mrs. W. Blatchford, mother of George N. Blatchford, comptroller at Monogram studios, Hollywood, died here this week.

Review

"The Mummy's Curse"

(Universal)

THE very original story of two mislaid mummies who rise from the swamps of the Louisiana Bayou country to plague the natives with their strange "courtship" provides a good hour of intriguing and terrifying fantasy tailored to please the horror followers.

The legend of an Egyptian prince who died in an attempt to restore life to his sweetheart is the basis of the tale. Entombed in accordance with ancient customs, the couple's rest was disturbed by meddling archaeologists who transported the mummies to the U. S., where they were lost in the swamps. Bringing the action up to date are Peter Coe, high priest and modern disciple of the ancient Egyptian religion, who comes to the Bayous to find the prince and princess and return them to Egypt, and Dennis Moore, curator, who, ignorant of Coe's motives, wants the mummies for his museum.

"The Mummy's Curse" offers many surprises, deviating considerably from the established horror formula. Lon Chaney, though he doesn't speak a word in his role of the mummified Prince, who walks the swamps in search of his princess, is excellent. Lovely Virginia Christine, the princess, is extremely effective in an unusual and difficult role. An atmosphere of mystery and suspense, achieved through eerie settings and frequent shots of strange rituals, pervades the entire production. Exhibitors can't go wrong on this one.

Oliver Drake was associate producer. Leslie Goodwins directed from a screenplay by Bernard Schubert, based on an original by Leon Abrams and Dwight V. Babcock. Supporting cast includes Martin Kosleck, Kay Harding and Addison Richards.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

HELEN MCNAMARA

"G" denotes general classification.

Suttell Killed in Action

BUFFALO, Dec. 21.—Pfc. Edward Suttell, former manager of the Old Vienna Theatre here, was killed in action in Germany on Nov. 27. Suttell was one of seven machine gunners who captured 120 Germans in a single night. Surviving are his widow and a son.

Merna Kennedy Dies

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21.—Merna Kennedy, former star in silent films, and ex-wife of Busby Berkeley, producer and dance director, died here yesterday of a heart attack. She was best known for her lead in Charles Chaplin's "The Circus." She was last seen in "The Lady with a Past."

Big $35,000 Gross For 'Heavenly Days' On $24,000 Average

BOSTON, Dec. 21.—Business in theatres here is booming this week and managers expect all first runs to exceed the usual grosses by a large margin. "Heavenly Days" is headed for a $35,000 week.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 20 are:

"Cat People" (RKO)
"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
BEACON—(1,100) (35c-44c-52c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,000).
"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
FENWAY — (1,373) (40c-52c-60c-74c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,000).
"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
"Murder in the Blue Room" (Univ.)
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-52c-74c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $16,000).
"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
BOSTON—(3,200) (76c-94c-$1.25). Stage show. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $24,000).
"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
"One Body Too Many" (Para.)
METROPOLITAN—(2,900) (40c-52c-74c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(1,500) ($1.10) 7th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT — (1,700) (40c-52c-74c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Unwritten Code" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,900) (35c-55c-74c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Unwritten Code" (Col.)
STATE—(3,200) (35c-55c-74c). Gross: $21,000. Average: $19,000).
"House Across the Bay" (UA)
"My Buddy" (Rep.)
TRANSLUX—(900) (30c-55c-74c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $12,000).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
"Barn Dance" (Para.)
WASHINGTON ST. OLYMPIA—17,000) (35c-55c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,000).

Fascinating Vera Hruba Ralston, skating queen of Republic's outstanding hit production, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE," enchants her audience in this elaborate costume waltz pageant. ADVT.

Coast Filming Static, with 45 on Stages

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—Production continues dull; five features were finished, and three started during last week, bringing the total in work down to 45, compared with 47 the week before. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "One Against Seven."

Started: "The Fighting Guardsman," with Willard Parker, John Loder, Anita Louise, Leslie Brooks, Edgar Buchanan, Ted Donaldson, George Macready, Elisabeth Risdon, Victor Kilian, Lloyd Corrigan, Ross Hunter.

Shooting: "Until Tomorrow," "Escape in the Fog" (formerly "Out of the Fog"), "Rockin' in the Rockies," "A Thousand and One Nights."

M-G-M

Finished: "Alter Ego," "Valley of Decision."

Started: "Her Highness and the Bellboy," with Hedy Lamarr, Robert Walker, June Allyson, Rags Ragland, Audrey Totter, Ludwig Stossel, Tom Trout, Mary Servoss.

Shooting: "Twice Blessed," "The Hidden Eye," "Weekend at the Waldorf," "Without Love," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Hold High the Torch."

Paramount

Shooting: "Hard to Handle" (Pine-Thomas) (formerly "Cheezit, the Corpse"), "Good Intentions," "The Virginian," "The Lost Weekend," "The Love Letters," "The Affairs of Susan," "Duffy's Tavern."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Isle of the Dead," "Johnny Angel," "Follow Your Heart," "The Spanish Main," "Invisible Army," "Along Came Jones" (International).

Republic

Started: "Gangs of the Waterfront," with Robert Armstrong, Stephanie Bachelor, Martin Kosleck, Marian Martin.

Shooting: "Sheriff of Cimarron," "Tell It to a Star," "Tugboat Annie's Son" (James S. Burkett), "Utah."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Molly, Bless Her."

Shooting: "Colonel Effingham's Raid," "First, Last and Always," "The Bullfighters," "A Bell for Adano."

United Artists

Shooting: "A Walk in the Sun" (Bronston), "Blood on the Sun" (Cagney), "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan), "Guest Wife" (Skirball-Manning), "Bedside Manner" (Stone).

Universal

Finished: "I'll Tell the World."

Shooting: "Easy to Look At," "Blonde Ransom."

Warners

Shooting: "Mildred Pierce," "This Love of Ours," "Hotel Berlin," "The Big Sleep," "San Antonio."

Republic Meets Jan. 10

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Republic managers will meet here at the Blackstone Hotel on Jan. 10-11.

Reviews

"The Unwritten Code"

(*Columbia*)

Hollywood, Dec. 21

PRODUCER Sam White has lavished on this low-budget melodrama the same care generally expended on more pretentious product. The result is a tautly-told, swiftly-paced action drama far better than the average of its class.

Ann Savage and Tom Neal are the featured names in the cast, but the heaviest acting load falls to Roland Varno, who handles it with ease. His portrayal of a Nazi impersonating a British officer is smooth and convincing. Frederick Giermann as a Gestapo chief, offers a more standardized portrait.

Leslie T. White and Charles Kenyon are credited with the screenplay, which concerns a Nazi prisoner of war who, torpedoed en route to the United States, manages to pass himself off as British. He is exposed eventually, by two small boys whose acting is capable, but whose speech does not always register clearly. The story-structure slips at the end into anti-climax with a sequence showing the Nazi's reactions when consigned to a prison camp. Herman Rotsten's direction achieves a maximum of suspense. Burnett Guffey's photography is unusually effective.

Running time, 61 minutes. "G".* Released, Oct. 26.

THALIA BELL

"Castle of Crimes"

(*PRC*)

PRC'S new 'chiller,' originally released in England under the title of "House of the Arrow," is an absorbing and realistic production, which will intrigue arm-chair sleuths from beginning to end. It boasts an excellent cast, all British, and all apparently endowed with a keen perception of the requirements of good mystery fare.

An elderly woman is murdered by her niece, who appears quite anxious to collect her legacy. Diana Churchill, as the niece, creates a highly believable and thoroughly hateful character. At the time the murder breaks in the newspapers several seemingly extraneous blackmail letters appear and Kenneth Kent, well-known French detective, appears on the scene. He constructs a hypothetical case against Belle Chrystall, Miss Churchill's companion, in order to prove Miss Churchill's guilt. Kent, with Peter Murray-Hill, Miss Churchill's lawyer, who has fallen in love with Miss Chrystall, proves that Miss Churchill is the murderess as well as the author of the blackmail letters.

Harold French directed carefully and competently, maintaining suspense throughout. Exploitation possibilities are plentiful. A. E. W. Mason produced.

Running time, 60 minutes. "G."* Release date Dec. 22.

HELEN MCNAMARA

"The Utah Kid"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Dec. 21

BOB STEELE and Hoot Gibson join forces to trap and expose an ingenious group of villains who have devised an almost foolproof racket. Traveling from town to town throughout the West, they enter various rodeo events and grab off the prizes by putting local contenders out of commission. This latter feat is accomplished by placing a hypodermic needle filled with snake-venom under the victim's saddle. When the contender collapses, his demise is attributed to snakebite.

Victor Hammond wrote the original screenplay, which depends for its interest chiefly upon such rodeo events as calf-roping and bronco-busting. The production was supervised by William Strohbach, and Vernon Keays directed at a somewhat uneven pace. The cast includes: Beatrice Grey, Evelyn Eaton, Mauritz Hugo, Ralph Lewis, Jamesson Shade, Mike G. Letz and Dan White.

Running time, 57 minutes. "G."*

T. B.

*"G" denotes general classification.

MGM Western Meet Ends

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Jack Flynn, M-G-M's Western division manager, officiated at the last of the series of division meetings held here this week at the Stevens Hotel. Sam Shirley and W. E. Branford, district local branch managers, respectively, were awarded 20-year service pins; 16 employees received 10-year pins.

Temple Joins Monogram

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21. — William Temple, formerly with Fox-West Coast, has joined the Monogram studio publicity staff under Lou Lifton. He succeeds James Hawthorne, who resigned to enter distribution with Ideal Pictures, 16mm company.

Cite Bob Hope

The Advertising Club of New York's award of merit will be granted to Bob Hope, film and radio comedian, at a forum luncheon next month. Hope will receive a plaque for entertaining Armed Service groups throughout the world. Hope was selected champion of champions in the recent *Motion Picture Daily-Fame* poll of radio editors.

'Classics' Buys 'Star'

Samuel Goldwyn has sold "The North Star" to Film Classics, which recently acquired reissue rights to 31 Goldwyn productions. James Mulvey, Goldwyn general manager here, will continue to supervise current distribution of the films through RKO.

Loop Runs Are Away Down, 'Pirate' Clicks

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—One of the poorest weeks in months was recorded in the Loop, with most patrons turning to last-minute Christmas shopping. Holdovers predominated; among those registering comparatively good grosses was "The Princess and the Pirate", with $14,000 for its fourth week at the Woods.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 21:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO — (1,200) (80c-$1.10) 9th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: 55c-95c scale: $11,400).

"The Conspirators" (WB)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c) On stage: Harry Savoy and Revue. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $51,500).

"Rogues' Gallery" (PRC)
DOWNTOWN — (1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c) On stage: Charlie Barnet and his orchestra. Gross: $13,000.

"Sweet and Lowdown (20th-Fox)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $9,100).

"Bluebeard" (PRC)
"When the Lights Go On Again" (PRC)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-65c-85c-95c) Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,100).

"The Great Mike" (PRC)
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c) On stage: Bob Wills and his revue. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $24,000).

"The Woman in the Window" (RKO)
"My Gal Loves Music" (Univ.)
PALACE—(2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $24,000).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 9th week. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $29,000).

"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $25,000).

"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).

'Woman' Does Well With $8,000 Take

CINCINNATI, Dec. 21.—Seasonal bypassing of theatres in favor of shopping caused grosses to dip to sub-normal figures with but two exceptions: "The Woman in the Window" will come through with $8,000 at RKO's Grand where it is playing a moveover week, while "The Sign of the Cross" is expected to bring $6,000 to Keith's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 23:

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
RKO-ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Kismet" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000).

"The Falcon in Hollywood" (RKO)
'Goin' to Town" (RKO)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $2,300. (Average, $2,400).

"The Woman in the Window (RKO)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,500).

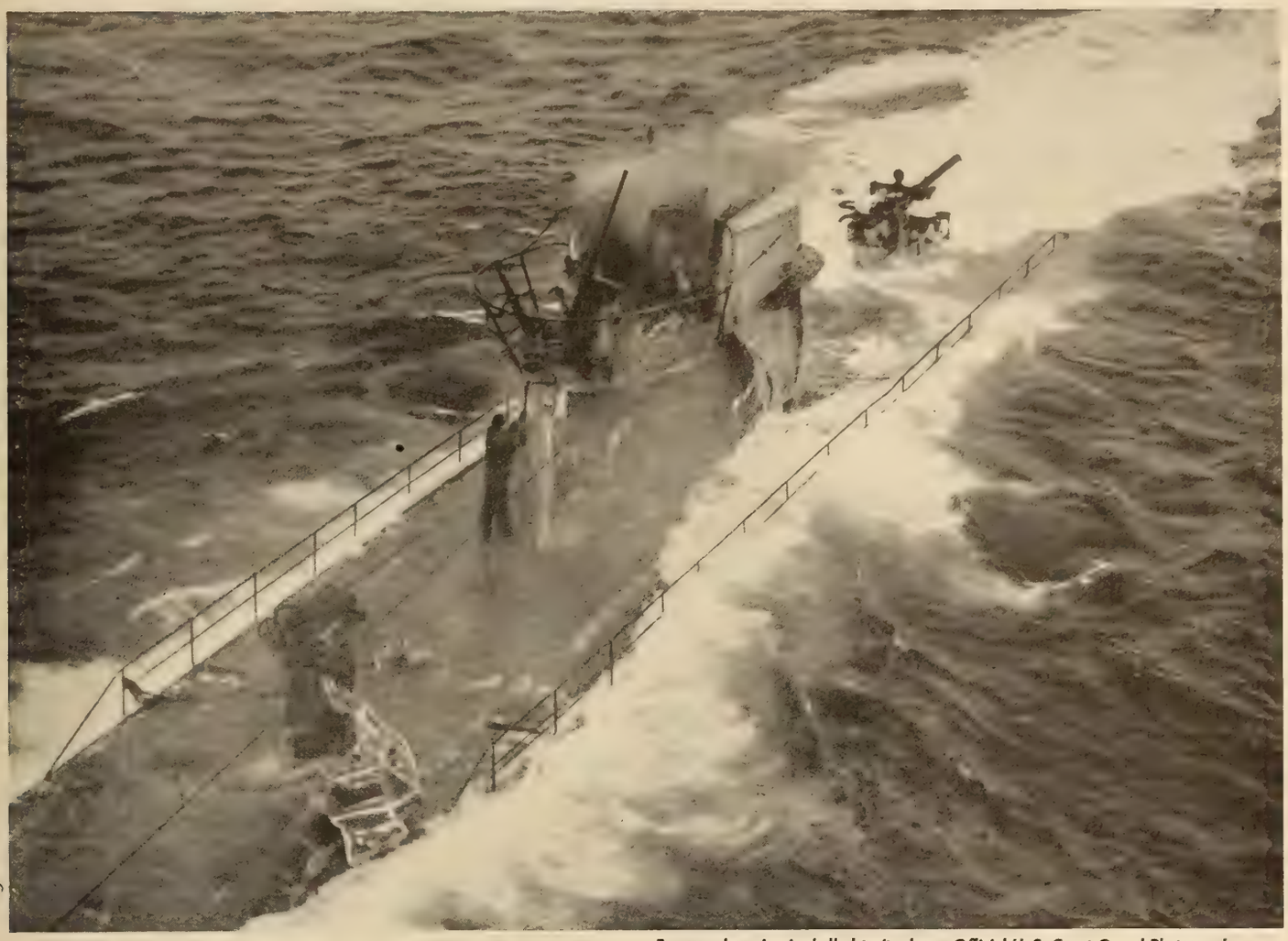
"The Sign of the Cross" (Para. reissue)
KEITH'S — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
RKO LYRIC — (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, following an initial week at the Albee and a moveover at the Grand. Gross: $4.000. (Average: $5,000).

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,500).

"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
RKO SHUBERT—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $5,000).

Caught flat-footed by our gunners and a combat cameraman



Enemy submarine is shelled to its doom. Official U. S. Coast Guard Photograph.

THE combat photographer is two men—he's a trained and toughened fighting man. He's an expert cameraman. He has to have the strength and skill of a fighting man to get his pictures when the fighting is at its thickest. As a cameraman, he has to be so expert that he is virtually a picture-taking machine, functioning at high efficiency under incredibly difficult conditions.

Everyone sees his pictures; but few outside the motion picture industry realize how many combat cameramen are former movie cameramen, how many have been trained by veteran movie photographers.

And, of course, processing, editing, cutting, adding supplementary sound—weaving separate shots into finished productions—are largely in the hands of movie-trained people. The archives of this war will be illustrated by the most magnificent war pictures ever made, and much of their excellence will be due to the co-operation of the motion picture industry.

Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Nov. 25		(Ninth Block) THE THIN MAN GOES HOME William Powell Myrna Loy C—100 mins. (Rev. 11/24/44)	SONG OF THE RANGE Jimmy Wakely Dennis Moore O—(461)	(Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins. (4432) (Rev. 8/23/44)		FACES IN THE FOG Jane Withers D—71 mins. (404) (Rev. 10/25/44) FIREBRANDS OF ARIZONA Smiley Burnette O—55 mins. (453) (Rev. 12/7/44) BRAZIL Tito Guizar Virginia Bruce M—91 mins. (405) (Rev. 10/23/44)	(Special Release) THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW (International) E. G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey D—99 mins. (582) (Rev. 10/10/44)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins. (530) (Rev. 8/2/44)		ENTER ARSENE LUPIN Charles Korvin Ella Raines D—72 mins. (9018) (Rev. 11/30/44)	
Dec. 2	SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks D—69 mins. (6032) (Rev. 12/12/44)	MAIN STREET AFTER DARK Edward Arnold Selena Royle D—57 mins. (Rev. 11/28/44)	CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom C (421)	(Second Block) FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Color) Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova D—113 mins. (4408) (Rev. 9/20/44)	ROGUES GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond C—60 mins.	RED RIVER VALLEY (Reissue) Gene Autry O—57 mins. (3308) (Rev. 12/15/41)	(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN (International) Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (Rev. 8/1/44)		GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy D—122 mins. (Rev.12/4/44)	MURDER IN The BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook John Litel D—61 mins. (9034) (Rev. 11/16/44)	THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Jane Wyman Jack Carson C—102 mins. (407) (Rev. 9/30/44)
Dec. 9	TAHITI NIGHTS Dave O'Brien Jinx Falkenburg C	MUSIC FOR MILLIONS Margaret O'Brien Jose Iturbi M—118 mins. (Rev. 12/13/44)	SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson D—68 mins. (416) (Rev. 10/4/44)	MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds D—84 mins. (4410) (Rev. 10/18/44)	OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—57 mins.		(First Block) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505) (Rev. 9/21/44)	(Fourth Block) (Nov. Release)		THE OLD TEXAS TRAIL Rod Cameron Fuzzy Knight O—60 mins. HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Jr. C—64 mins. (9031) (Rev. 11/24/44)	
Dec. 16	TOGETHER AGAIN Irene Dunne Charles Boyer Charles Coburn C—100 mins. (6003) (Rev. 11/3/44)	BLONDE FEVER Philip Dorn Mary Astor C—69 mins. (Rev. 11/28/44)	ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—76 mins. (403) (Rev. 10/16/44)	THE MAN IN HALF-MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker D—92 mins. (4407) (Rev. 10/17/44)	THE TOWN WENT WILD Freddie Bartholomew Jimmy Lydon D—80 mins. (Rev.11/13/44)		NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501) (Rev. 10/2/44)	LAURA Gene Tierney D—88 mins. (509) (Rev. 10/11/44)		MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Grace McDonald Bob Crosby M—63 mins. (Rev. 12/5/44)	
Dec. 23	DANCING IN MANHATTAN Fred Brady Jeff Donnell C—60 mins. (6038) (Rev. 12/21/44)	BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore D—82 mins. (Rev. 12/21/44)	BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids D—62 mins. (409) (Rev. 11/16/44)	AND NOW TOMORROW Loretta Young Alan Ladd D—85 mins. (4406) (Rev. 10/17/44)	CASTLE OF CRIMES (British) Keneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall D—60 mins.	THOROUGH-BREDS Tom Neal Adele Mara D—55 mins. (408)	GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins. (504) (Rev. 9/25/44) TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne O—87 mins. (503) (Rev. 9/26/44) THE MASTER RACE George Coulouris D—96 mins. (502) (Rev. 8/21/44)	SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS Carmen Miranda Michael O'Shea M—87 mins. (510) (Rev. 11/1/44)	TOMORROW THE WORLD Fredric March Betty Field D—86 mins. (Rev. 12/18/44)	DESTINY Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald D—65 mins. (Rev. 12/7/44)	
Dec. 30	LET'S GO STEADY Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser C	NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel and Hardy C—69 mins. (Rev. 12/5/44)	NAVAJO TRAILS Johnny Mack Brown O—(454)	ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker C—76 mins. (4409) (Rev. 10/18/44)	THE WHISPERING SKULL (Texas Rangers) O	SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS 55 mins.—O (3316) THE BIG BONANZA Richard Arlen D—69 mins. (407)	(Second Block) EXPERIMENT PERILOUS Hedy Lamarr George Brent D—91 mins. (510) (Rev. 12/6/44)	(Fifth Block) (Dec. Release) WINGED VICTORY Edmond O'Brien Jeanne Crain D—130 min. (512) (Rev. 11/22/44)	I'LL BE SEEING YOU Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten D—85 mins. (Rev. 12/19/44)	CAN'T HELP SINGING (Color) Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff M—88 mins. (Rev. 12/14/44)	
Jan. 6	YOUTH ON TRIAL Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair D	THIS MAN'S NAVY Wallace Beery James Gleason D	ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Rick Vallin D—67 mins. (414) (Rev.12/5/44)	(Third Block) HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts M—97 mins. (4411) (Rev. 12/18/44)	HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay D		MURDER, MY SWEET Anne Shirley Dick Powell D—95 mins. (508) (Rev. 12/6/44) GIRL RUSH C—65 mins (506) (Rev. 10/25/44) NEVADA O—62 mins. (509) (Rev. 12/11/44)	SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER Anne Baxter John Hodiak D—86 mins. (513) (Rev. 12/6/44)		NIGHT CLUB GIRL Vivian Austin Edward Norris M—60 mins. (Rev. 12/8/44)	HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN All-Star Cast M—123 mins. (409) (Rev. 12/5/44)
Jan. 13	EADIE WAS A LADY Joe Besser Hal MacIntyre and Orchestra C		ADVENTURES Of KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker D—63 mins. (420) (Rev. 12/8/44)	DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks D—62 mins. (4412) (Rev. 12/21/44)			THE FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD D—67 mins. (507) (Rev. 12/5/44)		MR. EMMANUEL (British) Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt D—100 mins.	SHE GETS HER MAN Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol C	
Jan. 20	I LOVE A MYSTERY Jim Bannon Barton Yarborough Nina Foch D	(Special Release) 30 SECONDS OVER TOKYO Spencer Tracy Van Johnson D—138 mins. (Rev. 11/14/44)	JADE MASK Sidney Toler D—66 mins. (417)	FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS (Color) Ingrid Bergman Gary Cooper D—158 mins. (4413) (Rev. 7/15/43)	THE MAN WHO WALKED ALONE Dave O'Brien Kay Aldridge D		(Special) THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE (Goldwyn) Bob Hope Virginia Mayo (Color) C—94 mins. (551) (Rev. 10/11/44)	(Jan. Release) KEYS OF THE KINGDOM Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell D—137 mins. (514) (Rev. 12/13/44)		UNDER WESTERN SKIES Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Sr. Leo Carillo O—57 mins.	TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—100 mins. (410) (Rev. 10/11/44)
Jan. 27		(Special Release) MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS (Color) Judy Garland Margaret O'Brien M—113 mins. (Rev. 11/1/44)	THEY SHALL HAVE FAITH Gale Storm C. Aubrey Smith D—83 mins. (Rev. 12/13/44)	PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray C—90 mins. (4414) (Rev. 12/15/44)	FOG ISLAND Lionel Atwill George Zucco D		(Special Release) BELLE OF THE YUKON (Color) (International) Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Bob Burns C—84 mins. (583) (Rev. 11/29/44)	THE FIGHTING LADY (color) (documentary) 61 mins. (515) (Rev. 12/21/44)		THE SUSPECT Charles Laughton Ella Raines D—85 mins.	
Feb. 3			CISCO KID RETURNS Duncan Renaldo O	DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—63 mins. (4415) (Rev. 12/21/44)	HIS BROTHER'S GHOST Buster Crabbe O THE KID SISTER Judy Clark D MARKED FOR MURDER Dave O'Brien O			THE WAY AHEAD (British) David Niven Raymond Huntley D—115 mins. (511)		HERE COMES THE CO-EDS Abbott and Costello C	

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 121 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1944 TEN CENTS

Seats, Carpets, Air Systems Needed in N.Y.

Remodeling, Repairing Programs Contemplated

By EDWARD SMITH

Postwar needs of theatres and circuits in the New York area are mainly new seats and carpets, a MOTION PICTURE DAILY cross-section survey of the circuits here discloses.

Of the many circuits contacted all were unanimous that their prime needs are these two items, while air conditioning units, projectors, lamps, marquees and general theatrical equipment followed to a lesser degree.

All plan to re-employ every serviceman employee, and hope to do so

(*Continued on page* 10)

Clearance Ruling Is Modified on Appeal

The arbitration appeal board has modified the award of the Boston tribunal in the Ayer Playhouse Co., Inc., clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association reported at the weekend.

Maximum clearance over the Playhouse Theatre, Ayer, Mass., the appeal board ruled, which may be entered into by Paramount, Loew's, 20th-Fox, and Warners to the Plymouth and Metropolitan, Leominster, Mass., on films to which the Playhouse is not subject to clearance in favor of the

(*Continued on page* 10)

Mexico May Order All Dubbing There

Mexico City, Dec. 25.—A law to compel all foreign companies that dub their pictures in Spanish for exhibition in Mexico—to have the work done in Mexico by Mexicans, is being drafted by the Ministry of Interior, chief Government department, with the aid of representatives of the industry. The law will be presented soon to President Manuel Avila Camacho—for his approval.

Patronage at Peak: Reagan

"The industry need expect only a slight period of economic readjustment in the postwar, because more people are conscious of films than ever before and the number is increasing," declared Charles M. Reagan here in an interview.

Charles M. Reagan

The Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution pointed out that the hundreds of thousands of soldiers who are now regularly and frequently see-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Television Not Yet Commercial: Kesten

"Television pictures today are in our opinion simply not good enough to attract and hold the audience that is essential to a commercially successful medium," Paul W. Kesten, executive vice-president of Columbia Broadcasting System, declared in a 1944 year-end statement released Friday.

"Prewar set sales were negligible and war-time audience research tells us that the public now expects far

(*Continued on page* 3)

Theatres Sold Out Over Long Weekend

Nationwide theatre business held to its customary strong holiday pace over the three-day Christmas week-end, with most key cities reporting almost complete sell outs over Saturday and Sunday, with a slight let-down Friday afternoon and yesterday.

New York reports were typical, disclosing that business was at capacity throughout Saturday and Sunday but dropped somewhat on Christmas Day.

RKO and WB Plan Managers' Bonus

RKO has applied for Treasury approval of a bonus plan for theatre managers and assistants in the field, whereby these employes would participate in three per cent of theatre earnings above a certain amount.

Last year the company asked for approval to divide some $125,000 among 200 employes, and the Treasury approved splitting the sum of $98,000. This year the company has applied for an amount $5,000 in excess of last year's application figure.

The amount which individual employes will secure is dependent on total earnings, after which the recipients are divided into brackets, with the top men getting the biggest share.

Warner's theatre department is understood to have a somewhat similar plan, details of which were unavailable at the weekend.

More Film Interest in Next Session of Congress

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The 78th Congress adjourned last week with a clean slate insofar as motion picture legislation is concerned.

The 79th Congress, opening on Jan. 3, bids fair to develop more legislation of interest to the industry than any since the outbreak of the war.

In the two years of its existence, the 78th Congress, which adjourned last week, enacted no direct motion picture measures, although, of course, the industry, as all others, was affected by various general measures, such as the last revenue act which not only increased the rate of admission taxes but applied to corporate incomes.

Major measures expected to come up during the coming months involve taxes, the construction of a Government film library and the reduction of fees for the making of pictures on public lands. Talked about, but not yet concrete, is legislation consolidating the various agencies dealing with international commerce into a Department of Export Trade.

As the new Congress gets under way, the usual film bills also are expected again to be filed, but there is at the moment little indication that block booking or divorcement will be brought up for consideration, at least until after the outcome of the film consent decree case, which revolves around those issues, is clear.

Distributors Interested in Conciliation

Willing to Discuss SCTOA Plan with Law

Individual company sales managers, expressing interest in the trade grievance conciliation plan advanced by Albert J. Law, executive secretary and general counsel of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, said over the weekend that they would be willing to discuss it in detail with Law on his arrival here today from Washington in the event they are asked to do so.

While no meetings have been arranged in advance, it is understood that Law will meet with sales executives individually during his stay in New York. He spent several days last week in Washington describing his plan to officials of the Department of Justice who, it is understood, have expressed interest and favorably com-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Bioff, Browne Are Released from Jail

Federal Judge John C. Knox in U. S. District court here on Friday rewarded Willie Bioff, West Coast racketeer, and George E. Browne, former IATSE president, for their cooperation in convicting the "Chicago Mob" which preyed upon the film industry between 1935 and 1939, by releasing them from jail. Both Bioff and Browne, convicted in November, 1941, of conspiracy to extort more than $1,000,000 from producing and exhibiting companies, were serv-

(*Continued on page* 10)

UA Releasing 3 for Sturges, Hughes

Hollywood, Dec. 25.—United Artists will distribute two Preston Sturges Productions next season, according to Gradwell Sears, UA distribution vice-president, who added that the company will also distribute Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw." Although Sturges and Hughes are associated in California Pictures Corp., a UA spokesman says the deals are separate.

Personal Mention

W. A. SCULLY, Universal vice-president and sales head, and MAURICE BERGMAN, Eastern advertising-publicity director, will leave for the Coast shortly after Jan. 1.

•

HERB BERG, for the past three months on leave from United Artists to serve as trade press contact for the industry's Sixth War Loan Drive, will return to the U. A. home office publicity department today.

•

CONSTANCE BENNETT has appointed HELEN FERGUSON director of publicity for "Paris Underground," which will be released by United Artists.

•

T. F. O'TOOLE, Columbia's New Haven manager, and WALTER SILVERMAN, salesman, will return from vacation today.

•

RALPH H. CLARK, Warners Canadian manager, is in New York for home office conferences.

•

DAVID HORNE, Monogram's foreign department auditor, is en route to New York from Mexico City.

'Keys' Premiere at Rivoli on Dec. 28

"Keys of the Kingdom," produced by 20th Century-Fox from A. J. Cronin's book, will have an invitational premiere at the Rivoli, Dec. 28. The world premiere will occur officially Dec. 29 at the same theatre, it was announced at the weekend by Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales.

An extensive advertising and exploitation campaign has been prepared for the film, Connors stated, the cost of which will be comparable to that expended on other outstanding 20th-Fox films.

Col. Exploitation Managers to Meet

Columbia's divisional exploitation managers will meet here today and tomorrow to discuss plans for the company's forthcoming Technicolor release, "A Song to Remember," with Frank P. Rosenberg, advertising and publicity director, and Harry K. McWilliams, national exploitation manager.

Among those expected to attend are Ed Rosenbaum, Philadelphia; Abe Bernstein, Boston; Lee Septembre, Washington; Jules V. Serkowich, Chicago; William Shirley, Detroit, and Henry G. Morris, Dallas.

N. Y. Critics Meet

New York Film Critics will hold their annual meeting today and will make an award for the best motion picture of the year. The usual reception and radio program have been eliminated for this year.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

BREAKING out again last week in one of their periodic rashes incited, it is to be assumed, by the spectacle of His Majesty's people spending their time and shillings in large quantities for the diversion supplied by American films in British theatres, some of Parliament's best orators gave forth in the old, familiar vein with the symptoms of what ails 'em.

Captain Charles Waterhouse, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, presumably turned several august countenances livid with his report that imports of American films had increased from $39,000,000 in 1939 to $78,000,000 last year.

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There followed in Parliament what the British quaintly describe as a "debate." It consisted, from news accounts reaching this side, of reiteration of threadbare charges that Hollywood is bleeding Britain white, siphoning off millions of pounds sterling and contributing nothing in return; that there still persists in these United States a sinister conspiracy of powerful forces dedicated to barring British motion pictures from the American entertainment screens, and that the "ill effects" of Hollywood films on the British public and, most especially, that part of it which is of tender years, are a matter of continuing concern to government agencies and officials there.

The refrain of the debate introduced little that has not been heard before. There were a few choice slurs and insinuations that may come to be known as the 1944 vintage of Britain's Hollywood brewing, such as that attributed to one Sir Alfred Beit about it not being difficult to see why the United States had been doing better than Britain in film export, since almost the entire American film industry had been exempted from conscription when the United States entered the war. If only Sir Alfred was correct we could make quite a testimonial of the fact that while almost the entire American industry was exempted from military service more than 100,000 of its members saw fit to don uniforms, regardless.

A couple of other new entries in the word derby were contributed by one Earl Winterton, who observed that British children, who queue up before the cinemas of a Saturday afternoon in large numbers, can't understand the American language employed in Hollywood films, and one by Major Henry Adam Procter, who opined that the Briton's "peculiar quality of voice makes English sound like a flute against the American tin whistle." (And you can say that "peculiar" again, Major!)

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It will hardly seem worthwhile to many in the American industry to reply to such empty and brittle statements. Most of them, in fact, carry their own refutation. We are tired of hearing that powerful conspirators keep British films from the American screens when we all know, and many of the British industry admit privately, that the large majority of British films just are not good enough to make the grade in the American market against Hollywood competition; that every reasonably good British picture that has been brought over here has been given distribution and exhibition commensurate with its cinematic quality in relation to the tastes of the American public, and that no conceivable conspiracy could succeed in keeping from the American public a motion picture, whether British or Chinese, that the public was willing to pay for.

It is becoming tiresome, too, to point out again and again that Hollywood films have contributed more to the growth of the British theatre industry than have British films; that Hollywood has sustained that industry in good times and bad and, during the present war, saved it from extinction. Also, that Hollywood films, in keeping open British theatres in wartime and serving them in the most prosperous era in British cinema history, produced for the British Treasury in ticket taxes alone nearly $300,000,000 in the past year—against Capt. Waterhouse's films' import figure for 1943 of $78,000,000.

In addition, every American company stands ready to help the British production industry back onto its feet when conditions there permit; every American distribution company is anxious to handle British product suited to this market and every American theatre is anxious to play it.

Calm yourself, John. Conserve the energy for picture-making.

Knoepfle Renamed By Cin. Cinema Club

CINCINNATI, Dec. 25.—Rudolph Knoepfle, Republic city salesman and president emeritus of the Cinema Club of Cincinnati, was returned to the presidency of that organization at a meeting held Saturday in the Variety Club headquarters. Knoepfle succeeds Ross Williams, RKO city salesman.

Bob Burns and Marc Cummings were reelected first and second vice presidents, respectively, and Peter Niland, secretary-treasurer.

NEW YORK THEATRES

A Brilliant Musical in a Setting of Spectacle and Romance!
VERA HRUBA RALSTON
Lake Placid Serenade
featuring
Eugene Palette, Robert Livingston, Ray Noble and his Orchestra
Vera Vague, Stephanie Bachelor, Harry Owens and his Royal Hawaiians
and
ROY ROGERS
(as Guest Star)
REPUBLIC THEATRE
B'way, Bet. 51st & 52nd Sts.
A Republic Picture

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
M-G-M's
"NATIONAL VELVET"
MICKEY ROONEY
DONALD CRISP - ELIZABETH TAYLOR
JACKIE JENKINS - REGINALD OWEN
and THE MUSIC HALL'S
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

STATE
ON SCREEN
Lana TURNER
'MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR'
IN PERSON
EDDIE HEYWOOD and ORCH.

BING CROSBY
BETTY HUTTON
SONNY TUFTS
In Person
Woody HERMAN and His Orchestra
ALL-STAR REVUE
"Here Come the Waves"
PARAMOUNT Times Square

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
JOHN WAYNE • ELLA RAINES
'TALL in the SADDLE'
WARD BOND • AUDREY LONG
A RKO PICTURE

20TH CENTURY-FOX PRESENTS
A. J. Cronin's
"THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM"
World Premiere December 29th
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

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Short Subject Review

"The Unknown Battle"

(20th-Fox—March of Time)

In dramatic style the March of Time relates the story of the American air assault upon Germany in the "softening up" process which paved the way for the Allied invasion of the continent. This is the answer to the question: "What happened to the Luftwaffe on D-Day?" The problems which beset the General Staff in smashing German plane production are effectively portrayed in shots of conferences of the leaders who planned the attack. Behind-the-scenes sequences showing the airmen being lectured and "briefed" before the take-off will bring some measure of comfort to loved ones at home who wonder just what happens over there. All this is augmented and climaxed by excellent photographs of the missions which proved so successful in keeping the Luftwaffe out of order on D-Day.

The film loses none of its effect or significance even though the subject has been explored earlier, and the narrator, in concluding, reminds the audience that this is one type of operation by which the Allies will ultimately defeat Japan. Running time, 19 minutes.

M-G-M's Auditors Meet Here Today

Twenty-six home office executives will attend the annual M-G-M auditors meeting to be held at the Hotel Astor starting today, according to a joint announcement of Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer, and Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations, who will conduct the sessions.

Among those who will attend are: William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general manager; E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Eastern sales manager; Edwin W. Aaron, circuit sales head; H. M. Richey, in charge of exhibitor relations; Harold Postman, assistant to Cummings; William G. Brenner, in charge of exchange maintenance; Max Wolf, purchasing head; A. J. Nelson, chief statistician for the sales department; Pincus Sober and Ben Milniker of the legal department; William Gleicher, Jay Grove, Nat Eisenstadt, Leonard Pollock, Harold J. Cleary, Mike Simons, Rose Klein, Charles Quick, Joel Bezahler, Charles F. Deesen, Leonard Hirsch, Paul Richrath, Ben Lustig, Matilda Green, and Geraldine Hawkins.

Also Parke D. Agnew, Paul J. Ash, Francis W. Beckett, Charles Bell, Oliver C. Broughton, H. Carl Gentzel, Willard Gillilan, Thomas F. Crady, Arthur Sklar, Arthur Sterling, Edward Urschel, Anna L. Berger, Dorothy Donaldson, Roberta Elston, Jeanne Harris, Henrietta Klein, Edna Frank and Marion Ryan.

U. A. Phila. Post to Shaw

PHILADELHPIA, Dec. 25.—Charles Shaw of United Artists in New York has been named exploitation manager for the company here. He succeeds George Fishman who resigned to join Warners in a similar post here.

To Adjust Ontario Operators' Wages

TORONTO, Dec. 25.—The Ontario Regional War Labor Board has started a study of prevailing wages for projectionists throughout the Province with a view to establishing uniformity of rates. This was started in connection with a labor dispute involving projectionists at the Royal, Windsor and York Theatres at Hamilton, operated by Mrs. Jean Gregory. Differences over pay increases led to a threatened walkout at the three houses but Mrs. Gregory secured an interim injunction from Judge E. F. Lazier restraining the operators from engaging in employment at any other theatre in Ontario.

The case was referred to James Marsh, Ontario Deputy Minister of Labor, Toronto, by Hugh Sedgwick, secretary of Hamilton Local No. 303 of the projectionists union. It was then stated that the whole question of operators' wage scales in Ontario would be considered by the War Labor Board with a view to adjusting differences between urban and rural rates.

Television Not Yet Commercial: Kesten

(Continued from page 1)

better television than present standards can give them," Kesten said. "Until the public gets the kind of television it expects, an audience that interests advertisers cannot be built, and broadcasters will and should carry the cost of programs. But private resources are limited and a television audience that ceases to grow will ultimately, of economic necessity, he allowed to die on the vine," the CBS executive stated.

"There are good prospects that 1945 will see successful demonstration in the United States of the kind of television we can endorse," he said. "Much factual evidence uncovered in 1944 supports these hopes. High-definition, 1,000-line television has already been demonstrated in France. High frequency, wide band television, as a world standard is inevitable, at whatever sacrifice it may mean of present day equipment, and we have repeatedly asserted that such sacrifice would be smaller today than tomorrow, and smaller tomorrow than the day before. Ours, we believe, is an optimistic as well as realistic stand.

"Television can become one of America's leading postwar industries, and we intend to do everything possible in the coming year to hasten its greatest potential development. For that reason," he concluded, "we shall continue to disagree with any policy or action which, in our opinion, threatens to stunt the growth of a new industry for the sake of immediate, and possibly temporary profit."

A Legal Combination

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 25.—Five local film offices combined in giving a Christmas party at the weekend in the Hotel Garde here. They were Warners, RKO, Universal, Republic and Monogram. George Weber, manager of the M-G-M office, was host at a cocktail party which preceded the dinner.

Want State Groups To Use CIAA Films

Wide distribution of films produced under the auspices of the film division of the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs depicting life today in Central and South America is being sought through state organizations as part of the CIAA program of creating better understanding of these people in the United States.

The Connecticut State Development Commission is the latest state group to cooperate in the CIAA program. Some 58 16 mm sound films have been made available for exhibition by city and state organizations in Connecticut and arrangements for showings to educational institutions, clubs, churches and other groups are being made by the New Haven Chamber of Commerce. CIAA already has such distribution in Texas and New York and is seeking extensive distribution through organizations in other states.

A rental charge of 50 cents per reel is made to offset the costs of handling the films, but there are no other charges connected with the exhibition of the films. The purpose of the films is to teach the people of the United States about the people of Central and South America by showing the various aspects of their daily life. The CIAA film division obtains the material in these countries but most of the films are made here.

Francisco from CIAA To Thompson Agency

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—First of several top officials who are expected to leave the agency in the near future, Don Francisco disclosed last week that he has resigned as Assistant Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, effective Feb. 1, when he will become vice-president and director of the J. Walter Thompson Co., New York advertising agency.

Francisco has been in charge of CIAA activities in motion pictures, radio and education, and his resignation was announced shortly after former Coordinator Nelson Rockefeller was sworn in as Assistant Secretary of State.

Other top officials are expected also to resign in the near future, due to the fact that the CIAA has only a comparatively short further lease of life, the exact term depending upon the defeat of Germany, before its most promising permanent programs are transferred to the State Department and its war activities are liquidated.

Exchange Union Elects

The following officers have been elected by the Film Exchange Employes Union, New York: Jack Finkelstein, reelected president; Agnes McLoughlin, reelected vice president; Harry Schochet, financial secretary and treasurer; Lillian Pataky, recording secretary, and Murray Bleutrich, reelected sergeant-at-arms.

Club Names Horstemeier

CLEVELAND, Dec. 25.—Herbert Horstemeier, Universal office manager here, has been elected president of the new Film Exchange Club here. Others named were: John Coyne, M-G-M, vice-president; Sarah Altschule, 20th Century-Fox, secretary, and Bill Gross, Columbia, treasurer.

Coming Events

Today—Annual meeting of M-G-M field auditors, Hotel Astor, New York.

Jan. 5—Variety testimonial dinner for W. A. Steffes, Niccolet Hotel, Minneapolis.

Jan. 7-8—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee, annual meeting, Garoso Hotel, Memuhis.

Jan. 21-22—Theatre Owners Association of North and South Carolina, annual meeting, Charlotte.

Jan. 24—National Allied's board of directors' meeting, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus, O.

Jan. 25-31—March of Dimes campaign.

Feb. 2—Press Photographers Association dance and entertainment, Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York.

Brilant, Levy Get RKO, Disney Posts

Arthur M. Brilant of the RKO Radio publicity department here, has been made manager of RKO's advertising and publicity department's special features service division, succeeding Charles Levy, who will become publicity director of the Walt Disney New York office, it was announced over the weekend by S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising and publicity. The change will become effective Jan. 2.

Brilant will supervise the preparation of feature story and pictorial publicity material, as well as various syndicate services to newspapers throughout the country. He will also handle a specialized advertising and promotion service, direct to theatres. Brilant, who joined RKO in 1939, is an industry veteran, at one time operating a circuit of 30 theatres in the middle West. He has had two plays produced on Broadway, been a staff writer for Paramount, exploitation manager for Pathe Exchange and in 1929-30, was director of publicity for the Warner Circuit. Brilant, with Ruthrauff and Ryan for four years specializing in radio, was last week appointed publicity coordinator of the Industry 1945 Red Cross Drive.

Central Casting Door Open to All Extras

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 25.—Beginning tomorrow, the Central Casting Bureau will register and use for extra work any members of the Screen Actors Guild or any other persons desiring employment as atmosphere players.

Until now, such work has been reserved for Class 'B' members of SAG, who voted a week ago for the Screen Players Union as their bargaining agency. Following that vote, SAG repealed a by-law which prevented other than its Class 'B' members from performing extra work. Central Casting's action opens the door to all comers.

It is believed that the Central Casting move is the forerunner of a continuing struggle for control of the extra players, relinquished by SAG in a formal statement last week.

THE SCREEN WILL BLAZE WITH A

"Outstanding financial success! Unquestionably one of the great pictures of this or any year!" —*Boxoffice*

"The nation's box-offices will sing praise for many, many months to come!" —*Motion Picture Daily*

"One of the films to which Hollywood can always turn with pride!" —*Variety*

"One of the year's best bets! Heart-satisfying... profoundly moving!" —*Showmen's Trade Review*

"Compelling popular interest! The film is a credit and an honor!" —*Motion Picture Herald*

ONE OF THE BIG PICTURES STARTING THE MOST EVENTFU

NEW GLORY!

A. J. Cronin's

THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

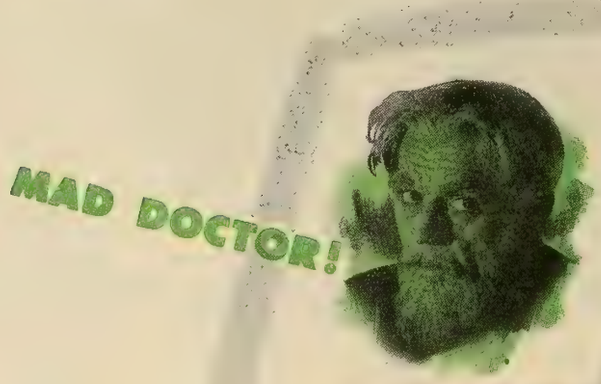
Directed by
John M. Stahl

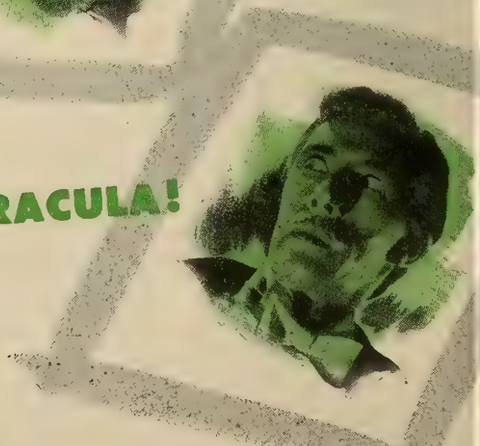
Produced by
Joseph L. Mankiewicz

SMASH 'EM WITH THE SIXTH WAR LOAN!

EAR FOR 20th CENTURY-FOX THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN THE INDUSTRY

BAD BOYS MAKE GOOD! *Cheerful new*

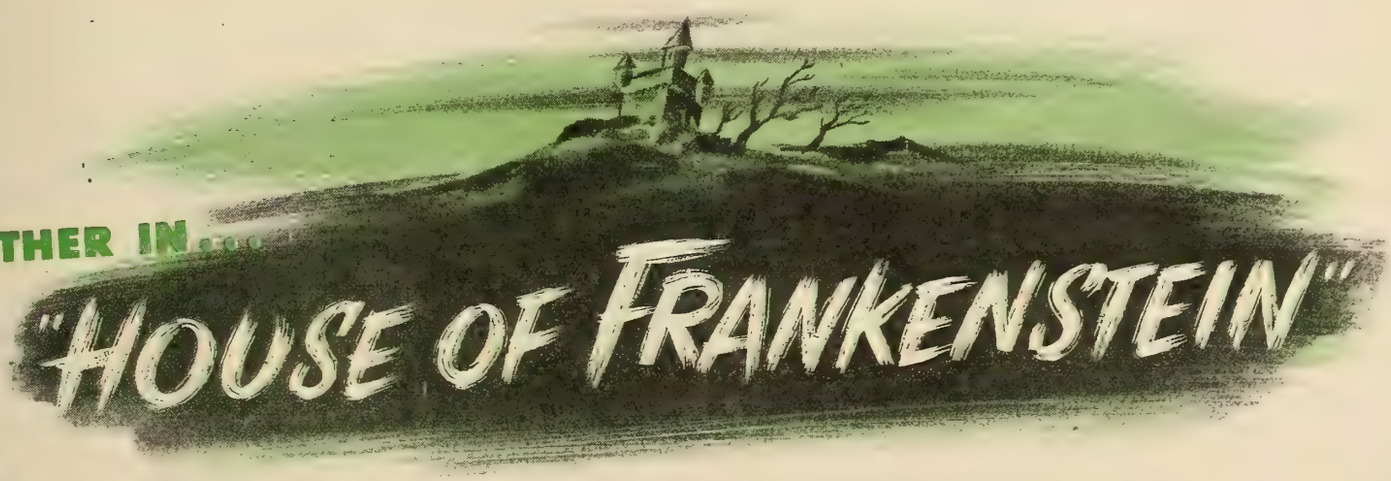




about these terrible people!.....

"House of Frankenstein," Universal's horror classic starring all its Titans of Terror, has broken all existing records at the RIALTO THEATRE on BROADWAY, NEW YORK. This again proves that Universal knows when and how to make this type of boxoffice bonanza.

We really believe that "House of Frankenstein" is headed for an all-time record for horror pictures . . . So, brother, don't be wary of this scary. You, too, can play it!



starring

BORIS KARLOFF · LON CHANEY with JOHN CARRADINE · J. CARROL NAISH

ANNE GWYNNE · PETER COE · ELENA VERDUGO · LIONEL ATWILL

Screen Play by Edward T. Lowe · Directed by ERLE C. KENTON · Produced by PAUL MALVERN · Based on a Story by Curt Siodmak

Theatre Building In Brazil Up 40%

Theatre building in Brazil has increased 30 to 40 per cent since the start of the war, David Lewis, M-G-M manager there, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY. Lewis, in New York for his first visit in two years, declared that about 25 houses are being built yearly.

More attention is being paid to better sound and projection equipment, remodeling and fixing of theatre fronts, he said. Brazil production is still in the talking stage; there are only four or five features made annually, despite the advantageous legislation in favor of national production. Every Brazilian theatre must play one national feature yearly. However, there is a tremendous production of newsreels and shorts. Some 600 of both of made annually.

About 85 per cent of all features of U. S. companies are exhibited in Brazil annually, occupying the majority of playing time of Brazil's 1,800 theatres. Only 1,000 play daily, others being shut about 10 months of the year and others only operating about twice monthly.

The American spectacular film with the emphasis on little dialogue is best liked.

Lewis will leave in about six weeks for Rio after concluding his home office conferences and taking a vacation. He pointed out that M-G-M is the only American company in Brazil to own its own theatres, the company having four.

Glucksman Sets 12 All-Negro Shorts

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—E. M. Glucksman, head of All-American News here, reports he will produce 12 short subjects featuring all Negro talent, to be made in New York under direction of Bud Pollard. The first will be released in February. Heretofore, All-American produced only weekly newsreels for the Negro trade.

Another firm recently established here for the production of Negro short subjects is Adams Productions, owned by Berle Adams, local theatrical agent and manager of Louis Jordan, Negro band leader. He just completed his first two-reeler, "Caldonia," in New York, with Jordan in the lead, for release in January.

Industry's Gift Films Commended

Material on the industry's gift films to servicemen has been incorporated into 44 different programs of the Keystone Broadcasting System. Typical script of sustaining shows reads: "Remember, the next time you view a good movie, the boys and girls in Uncle Sam's uniforms are seeing it too. The motion picture industry may well be proud of the grand job they're doing as morale-boosters."

Theatres Recruiting

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—Theatres in this territory are sponsoring a recruiting drive, in cooperation with the War Manpower Commission, for workers for defense plants. "Stay On the Job," a two-and-a-half-minute trailer, as being featured in Lancaster, Scranton and Reading theatres.

Short Subject Reviews

"New Americans"

(*RKO-Pathe*)

Again emphasizing the importance of understanding among Americans of various ancestry, Frederic Ullman, Jr., in the latest "This Is America" release, points up a plea for unity. Following one Johann Lang from the time he lands as a refugee from Nazi territory, the story tells of his adjustment to and eventual citizenship in this country, and tells of contributions, along with those of such immigrants as Albert Einstein, Thomas Mann, Victor Hoss and Sergeant Werner Katz. Parts of the film are tearful.

The production, well handled, can contribute much at this time and exhibitors will find in it numerous exploitation possibilities, particularly since several national organizations have announced their support of the picture. Slavko Vorkapich directed and Jay Bonafield supervised. An excellent commentary, written by Ardis Smith, is spoken by Thomas Chalmers. Running time, 19½ minutes.

"Safety Sleuth"

(*M-G-M*)

Pete Smith depicts the 'do's' and 'don'ts' of safety in a most entertaining fashion in his newest effort, which should cause some thought as well as hearty laughs. The camera follows a typical 'Joe' as he goes about his daily business, which is doing the easy things the hard way and taking the fewest and most peculiar precautions with the toughest jobs. The 'safety sleuth' is introduced to help 'Joe,' and others like him. "Safety Sleuth" was filmed with the cooperation of the War Department Safety Council. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Songs of the Colleges"

(*RKO*)

RKO's new series presents the hallowed songs of the nation's oldest colleges. Hal Roberts' Trojan Band of the University of Southern California provides "rah-rah" band music. There are shots of some famous intercollegiate football matches which will provide some delightful moments for old grads. Lee Marcus and Bert Gilroy produced. Running time, 15 minutes.

"First Aiders"

(*RKO*)

Pluto's noble intentions to assist Minnie Mouse in a first-aid course leads to much grief for the hapless pup. His every effort is thwarted by a mischievous kitten and resultant situations are highly amusing. This Disney cartoon is certainly in the running. Running time, 7 minutes.

"I Won't Play"

(*Warners*)

Warners in "I Won't Play" has a fine production, with a good script and a competent cast. "I Won't Play" has drama, comedy and action. The story takes place at a Marine base in the South Pacific where Dane Clark, ex-Broadwayite, keeps the boys entertained with tales of the things he did and the people he knew in show business. When he boasts of his prowess on the piano he is asked to play, but refuses, prompting the servicemen to think him a 'phoney.' He proves himself in the end in a fittingly dramatic climax. Crane Wilbur directed from an original by Laurence Schwab. Cast also includes Janis Paige, Warren Douglas and Robert Shayne. Running time 20 mins.

"Bombalera"

(*Paramount*)

Paramount's Musical Parade series continues as one of the top show builders, "Bombalera" having much in the way of music, color and dancing —enough to offset story deficiencies. Olga San Juan, as the 'Cuban Cyclone,' has a sparkling personality and the ability to really do things with Latin American rhythms. Harry Simeone's music arrangements, of prime importance here, are catchy and clever, and Billy Daniels' dances are attractive and well executed.

Natalie Kalmus was Technicolor director. Noel Madison directed and Louis Harris produced. Running time, 20 minutes.

"Triple Trouble"

(*RKO*)

Leon Errol, attempting to reconcile his secretary with her husband, runs into difficulties with his wife, who is consulting the same fortune teller that the secretary meets with regularly. Followers of the Errol series will especially enjoy this one. It starts with an amusing situation and carries through to a hilarious finish without any letdown. Cast includes Claire Carleton, Lee Trent, Dorothy Grainger and Harry Harvey. George Bilson produced, Harry D'Arcy directed. Running time, 17 minutes.

"Jammin' the Blues"

(*Warners*)

Gjon Mili has captured the atmosphere of an authentic 'jam-session,' where musicians meet to play what they like because they like it; the film is in a class by itself. Photography is a departure from the established routine, highlighting an effective switch in black and white. For 'jive-fanciers' the subject holds much; for an average audience it offers diversion. Running time 10 minutes.

Variety Health Center

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 25.—The local Variety club will erect a health center in Tulsa, to cost $45,000. Ralph Talbot was recently reelected chief barker here. Serving with him will be: H. R. Falls, first assistant; C. H. Weaver, second assistant; C. R. Guthrie, treasurer; Sol Davis, secretary, and C. B. Akers, Ed Kidwell, M. W. Osborne, Dan James, Henry Griffing and B. J. McKenna, canvassmen.

Lighting Experts to Meet

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Lighting equipment manufacturers will meet April 19-23 at the International Lighting Exposition at the Palmer House here to present the new developments in lighting equipment for theatres and other places. "It will be the largest exhibit of industrial and commercial lighting equipment ever assembled," according to the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, sponsor of the display.

Hollywood

Hollywood, Dec. 25

JACK L. WARNER has decided to make a starring team of Faye Emerson and Dane Clark, who appeared together in "The Very Thought of You," and will start them out in "Catch a Falling Star," which Wolfgang Reinhardt will produce. . . . Columbia has assigned Lynn Merrick to the feminine lead in "Boston Blackie Booked on Suspicion," opposite Chester Morris. . . . Keenan Wynn is to continue in M-G-M's "What Next, Corporal Hargrove?," the role he played alongside Robert Walker in "See Here, Private Hargrove." . . . It was Carey Wilson who produced Metro's "Between Two Women."

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Buster Keaton and Irene Ryan will be teamed in "That's the Spirit," which Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano are writing and producing for Universal. . . . Lowell Gilmore has been added to the cast of RKO's "Johnny Angel." . . . Clarence Muse has been signed for a comedy role in MGM's "Without Love."

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"The Inside Story," by Scott Littleton, has been purchased by Columbia and assigned to Ted Richmond for production. . . . Leroy Prinz has been assigned to direct the musical sequences of the forthcoming Warner production, "When Old New York Was Young.". . . RKO has signed Aubrey Wisberg to do the screenplay for "Sweet Georgia Brown," which John Auer will produce under the supervision of Sid Rogell.

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Lamar Trotti has been given a new producer-writer-director contract by 20th Century-Fox.

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Five pictures will go before the cameras at Warners during January. "Three Strangers" will be the first, with a cast headed by Geraldine Fitzgerald, Sydney Greenstreet and Peter Lorre. "The Adventures of Don Juan," starring Errol Flynn, follows, and then "When Old New York Was Young," which will star Ann Sheridan and Dennis Morgan. "The Time Between," with Joyce Reynolds and Robert Hutton, and "Danger Signal," which William Jacobs is to produce, concludes the quintet.

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Burt Kelly has been assigned to produce "Girl Meets Wolf" for Columbia. . . . Leon Ames will have a featured role, that of a disembodied guardian angel, in M-G-M's forthcoming color fantasy, "Yolanda and the Thief. . . . Bob Haymes, returning to Columbia after having been honorably discharged from the Army, has been cast for the top male role in "Ten Cents a Dance."

WMC Approves Theatre

HARTFORD, Dec. 25.—The Connecticut War Manpower Commission has approved the application of Ralph S. Pasho, operator of the Gem Theatre in Naugatuck, for release of manpower sufficient for the construction of a 900-seat theatre on Church St. in Naugatuck, to cost $100,000, and the War Production Board, Washington, has approved the use of necessary building materials.

WB Telling Youth About Democracy

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—Combining democratic teachings with film entertainment, Warner Theatres here is distributing a children's comic book, "They Got the Blame," sponsored by the Parents' Institute, at Saturday matinees of all circuit neighborhood houses. The books present a story of 'scapegoats' in world history, and how to recognize and be on guard against 'divide-and-conquer' tactics used by enemies of democracy.

Ted Schlanger, Warner zone head here, declared the film industry must play an active part in helping to educate the youth of the land. "The motion picture industry," Schlanger said, "reaching so many of our nation's youth, must be alert to racial prejudice and religious intolerance, and must join forces with our schools and educational institutions to see to it that our children today do not become tomorrow's fascists and bigots."

Goldberg Heads Club

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Lou Goldberg of Republic has been elected president of the Reel Fellows Club of Illinois for 1945. Others named to office were Ted Meyers, Universal, first vice president; Harry Walders, RKO, second vice president; Saul Goldman, Variety Pictures, secretary; Henry Kahn, M-G-M, assistant secretary; Robert Funk, Universal, treasurer; Tom Greenwood, Columbia, assistant treasurer, and Max Dreifuss, Monogram, sergeant-at-arms. Installations will be held Jan. 21.

Question Postwar Theatre Building

Cincinnati, Dec. 25.—Some theatre operators in this territory are dubious whether any sizeable theatre building expansion will be justifiable or profitable in the postwar, due to potential population decreases resulting from exodus of workers now maintaining temporary residences because of employment in war-producing industries, plus a possible financial retrenchment for amusements by permanent residents through diversion of funds into channels of vital personal or home requirements long awaiting replenishment.

Mexico May Demand 5% Admission Tax

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 25.—A five per cent tax on all theatre tickets may be placed in effect here soon. Congress is considering a bill demanding that all amusement admissions, luxury articles and legalized betting be taxed that amount to afford funds for the feeding of undernourished children of the country.

Blowitz Joins Pickford

William Blowitz has joined the Mary Pickford Productions unit as publicity director, it was reported at the weekend by United Artists. The first film on Miss Pickford's production schedule is "One Touch of Venus."

Little U.S. Production In Mexico: Epstein

Despite the many reports of contemplated production by American companies in Mexico, very little has crystallized to date, according to Jacob Epstein, Universal's managing director in Mexico, who was here for several weeks of home office conferences, and who has returned to Mexico City.

"Film business is very good both for Mexican and American pictures," Epstein stated in an interview. "The fact that Mexican pictures are doing so well has not harmed Hollywood films but, rather, has created a wider audience. Smaller theatres in the interior have had to improve both sound and projection to give proper screening to Spanish-speaking films. This has benefited American films, indirectly, because the better performance has widened the circle of patrons," he said.

Epstein reported that there is still room for more second and subsequent run houses in Mexico City, but there is a sufficiency of first-run houses.

Ryan Gets 'Polio' Post

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—J. Harold Ryan, president of the National Association of Broadcasters, has accepted the chairmanship of the national radio division in the annual fund raising drive to combat infantile paralysis. The appointment was made by Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The drive will start Jan. 14 and continue through Jan. 31.

Mexico Fears Raw Stock Shortage

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 25.—Mexican producers fear a decrease in raw stock supplies from the United States to the extent that they believe that rationing, made necessary in 1944 to conserve supplies, will be so severe in 1945 as to possibly limit production to 40 pictures, compared with the record 85 that were made during 1944. Some sources hold, however, that the cut, if it comes, could be a boon, for it would encourage production of quality films exclusively.

Raw stock rationing this year was on a basis of preference to producers who have proven their worth. If the raw stock crisis develops, this policy must, of necessity, be tightened, which would probably exclude all but top producers from supplies.

On the other hand, there are reports that the Coordinator's Office may arrange for a raw stock supply for Mexico that will match in 1945 that of this year. Despite these reports, Mexico will soon have another large film studio, which will be started on Jan. 15 at Ixtapalapa, D. F., a local suburb of Mexico City, by Jose Calderon and his associates.

Plan New Tenn. Theatre

KNOXVILLE, Dec. 25.—Will Drumbar, local exhibitor, has employed architect Fred T. Manley, Jr., to draw plans for a new house on Chapman Highway, to be built as soon as materials can be obtained. It will be the first theatre in South Knoxville.

Talented star, Vera Hruba Ralston is the center of attraction in the most amazing skating spectacle ever staged on ice, the *Hawaiian* number, featured in Republic's new musical hit, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE."

ADVT.

Patronage at a Peak, C. Reagan Reports

(Continued from page 1)

ing the industry's gift films overseas, and additional patrons secured, already have given the industry more consumer potentialities than at any time in its history.

The present high quality of product, despite the present "lush" war period during which even lesser product could conceivably get by, is also a guarantee that the industry will enjoy prosperity in the postwar, Reagan said.

Reagan maintained that there is no product shortage, except in isolated instances. The opposite is true, he argued, because longer runs make it more difficult to get pictures dated. Paramount is releasing product as it thinks the market can absorb it, about 30 a year in blocks of four or five. Production is balanced with releases, Reagan said, with the studio currently geared to turn out 30 pictures yearly. "We serve over 15,000 accounts on key pictures, with other product averaging 12,500," he disclosed.

The company will shortly have a backlog of 20 films; seven are shooting, seven others are finished and six are being edited.

Bioff, Browne Are Released from Jail

(Continued from page 1)

ing long prison sentences, Bioff, 10 years, and Browne, eight years, and each had paid a fine of $20,000.

Once in jail, however, they decided to tell all. They informed the Government as to the identities of the members of the "Chicago Mob," who subsequently were convicted by the testimony of Bioff and Browne, and jailed for 10 years each. Their convictions were affirmed this week by the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, as was that of Louis J. Kaufman, Newark, IATSE business agent, who was sentenced to seven years.

Boris Kostelanetz, special assistant U. S. Attorney General, who prosecuted the "Chicago Mob," did not oppose the motion made by Edward Behrens, attorney for Bioff and Browne, on Friday. Kostelanetz told the court that when Bioff and Browne were convicted, the Government did not know who their associates were, and never would have found out if the two men had not decided to "cooperate." The testimony of Bioff and Browne was given "despite threats against them and their families," Kostelanetz said, and "It seems desirable that some consideration be shown them in respect of their sentences."

Robert Woolums Dies

COLUMBUS, Dec. 25.—Private Robert W. Woolums, 28, former manager of the Drexel Theatre here before he enlisted, died in France, Nov. 3, it was announced today. He is survived by his father and two sisters.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and
Disc Recording Facilities

Seats, Carpets and Air Systems Needed in N. Y.

(Continued from page 1)

without eliminating any of their present employees.

Virtually all intend to remodel and repair when restrictions of the War Production Board are relaxed, but only a few are actually planning new theatre construction.

Malcolm Kingsberg, RKO, declared: "We will buy seats, carpets and all other necessary equipment when it is available. Our projection equipment is up to date and we have some spares. RKO Theatres have 1,000 employees in service, and all who want to come back may do so. We are also studying a remodeling problem now, under a long-term planning program for rehabilitation, and we feel that whenever the alteration is to be large, it is better to rebuild completely. That will be done in some cases. We are allowed an average of $750,000 yearly for repairs and maintenance. We have been unable to use this fund for three years. By the time the war ends, we will have between $3,000,000 and $5,000,000 for theatre needs," Kingsberg disclosed.

Warners Prepared

Warners' Harry Goldberg said that the circuit "anticipated the shortages and prepared for them," adding, "our sound engineering department reports that we do not need any extensive overhauling of sound equipment. Mostly we will need seats and carpets. Our theatres are in good shape; little remodeling is necessary. We have put on new roofs, repainted and taken seats and carpets from de luxe houses when slightly worn and installed them in lesser runs. We have 2,722 in service, and all who desire to return may do so. We are planning no new theatre construction."

At Loew's, John Murphy said, "We can't get seats and we could use better ones than we have. Our carpeting is in good shape, but we could certainly use more of it. Our projection and air-conditioning units are also in good shape. Loew's will reemploy all of its servicemen and women who desire to come back. We will remodel theatres where necessary when we can get materials, but we are not contemplating any additional theatre building."

Lou Brandt of Brandt Theatres said that, "From 75 to 90 per cent of Brandt theatres need new seats and carpets. We also need projectors and lamps, and plan to rehabilitate about six theatres in the circuit. Almost all of them need new marquees. When our men in service return they will be given as good, if not better, jobs and the women who replaced them will, for the most part be retained. However, a theatre managers' job belongs to a man. Women have not proved equal to the arduous task. We plan no new theatres. We anticipate that television may prove to be an important factor, and in making alterations, we will leave room in back of the screen so that we can install television, if necessary."

The Randforce circuit, Samuel Rinzler, spokesman, said, "Will need carpets, seats, cooling plants for those theatres which haven't any and reconditioning for those that have. A number of seats are worn out now," he said, adding: "We have about 50 in service, all of whom will be reemployed. We will remodel theatres wherever needed, but we do not contemplate additional construction."

Other Circuits

Most other circuits found their needs similar to those heretofore described. Prudential reported, "We need seats, carpets, projection machines in all of our theatres, and we are planning to construct two or three new theatres; we will have to remodel about eight." Fabian's needs include "seats, carpets, projection machines and general theatrical equipment. Air conditioning is needed in some theatres. No new theatre construction is planned, but a general overhauling of theatres will be made." Skouras will need "seats, cooling plants, projection machines. No remodeling is contemplated because theatres are in good shape now; no theatre construction is planned."

The Walter Reade circuit's needs are about the same: "Seats, carpets and colored lamps mostly. Equipment has been kept up to date. No building is contemplated because it is felt New York is overcrowded with theatres now. There will be some remodeling of antiquated houses."

A spokesman for Century Circuit stated that "seats, carpets and new and refurbished air conditioning units are needed. We will remodel a few houses, but we have made no decision on theatre construction." Interboro Circuit echoed the others: "Seats, carpets and projection sound equipment are most necessary."

M-G-M Promotes Gardner

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 25.—Sam Gardner, manager of the local M-G-M branch for over five years, has been promoted to a similar post in Los Angeles. Gardner, with the company since 1931, will be succeeded here by Carl Nedley, who has been acting manager in Omaha since last Summer.

Waycoff, Harte Bookers

ALBANY, Dec. 25—Harold Waycoff of Paramount and Carl Harte of Columbia are the two new chief bookers in this city's exchanges. Waycoff replaces Tom Creavy, resigned due to illness, and Harte took the place of Camile Alli, who was transferred to a cashier's post.

Harry Langdon Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 25.—Harry Langdon, 60, film comedian whose reputation had been established in silent film days, died here Friday morning He began his film career with Mack Sennett appearing in a series of two-reel comedies, and since then was with many other producers. He is survived by his widow, a son, Harry Jr., a brother, John, and a sister, Gertrude

SPG to Buy 'F' Bonds

The Screen Publicists Guild will purchase $10,000 worth of Sixth War Loan "F" bonds at the War Activities Committee "Statue of Liberty" in Times Square tomorrow noon. Major L. E. Thompson of RKO will make the sale to Jonas Rosenfield, Jr., SPG president.

Distributors Open to Conciliation Plan

(Continued from page 1)

mented upon it without formally approving it.

In reply to questions, several sales managers said that if they were convinced the plan had real merit and offered remedies not already available, they would be willing to consider putting it into effect nationally, rather than exclusively in the Southern California area where the plan originated with the SCTOA.

The plan, which was announced in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of Nov. 9, provides a three-point formula for settling exhibitor-distributor disputes without resorting to established arbitration board procedure, and also without supplanting it. First step would consist of personal efforts to settle a dispute. Second step would comprise round-table discussion with all interested parties present. If these failed to resolve the dispute, Law would serve as arbitrator in his area or aid in selecting trade-informed arbitrators acceptable to both parties and, in the latter case, represent the exhibitors in arbitration proceedings.

Under the plan, exhibitor members in Southern California would have access to Law's services in such disputes without charge beyond the regular SCTOA membership fee of 10 cents per seat per year. SCTOA has both independent and circuit operators as members.

Clearance Ruling Is Modified on Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

Strand or Merrimack theatres in Lowell, Mass., shall be one day. Maximum clearance over the Playhouse in favor of the Strand or Merrimack on Loew's, 20th-Fox and Warners' product shall be seven days.

Further, the appeal board said, no clearance shall be granted in licenses hereafter entered into by Paramount, Loew's, 20th-Fox and Warners to the Plymouth or Metropolitan theatres, Leominster, against the Playhouse on any pictures to which it is subject to clearance in favor of the Strand or Merrimack, Lowell.

Complaint against RKO was dismissed and also against Paramount insofar as the Strand and Merrimack, Lowell, is concerned. No clearance, the board ruled further, shall be granted in favor of the Fitchburg or Shea theatres, Fitchburg, Mass., over the Playhouse or Loew's, 20th-Fox, Paramount and Warners product.

New England Theatres, Inc., operating the Strand and Merrimack, and Leominster Allied Theatre Corp., operating the Plymouth and Metropolitan, were intervenors.

Grant Wooley Dies

URBANA, O., Dec. 25.—Grant Wooley 80, owner of the Lyric Theatre here for the past 21 years, died at his home late last week following a lingering illness.

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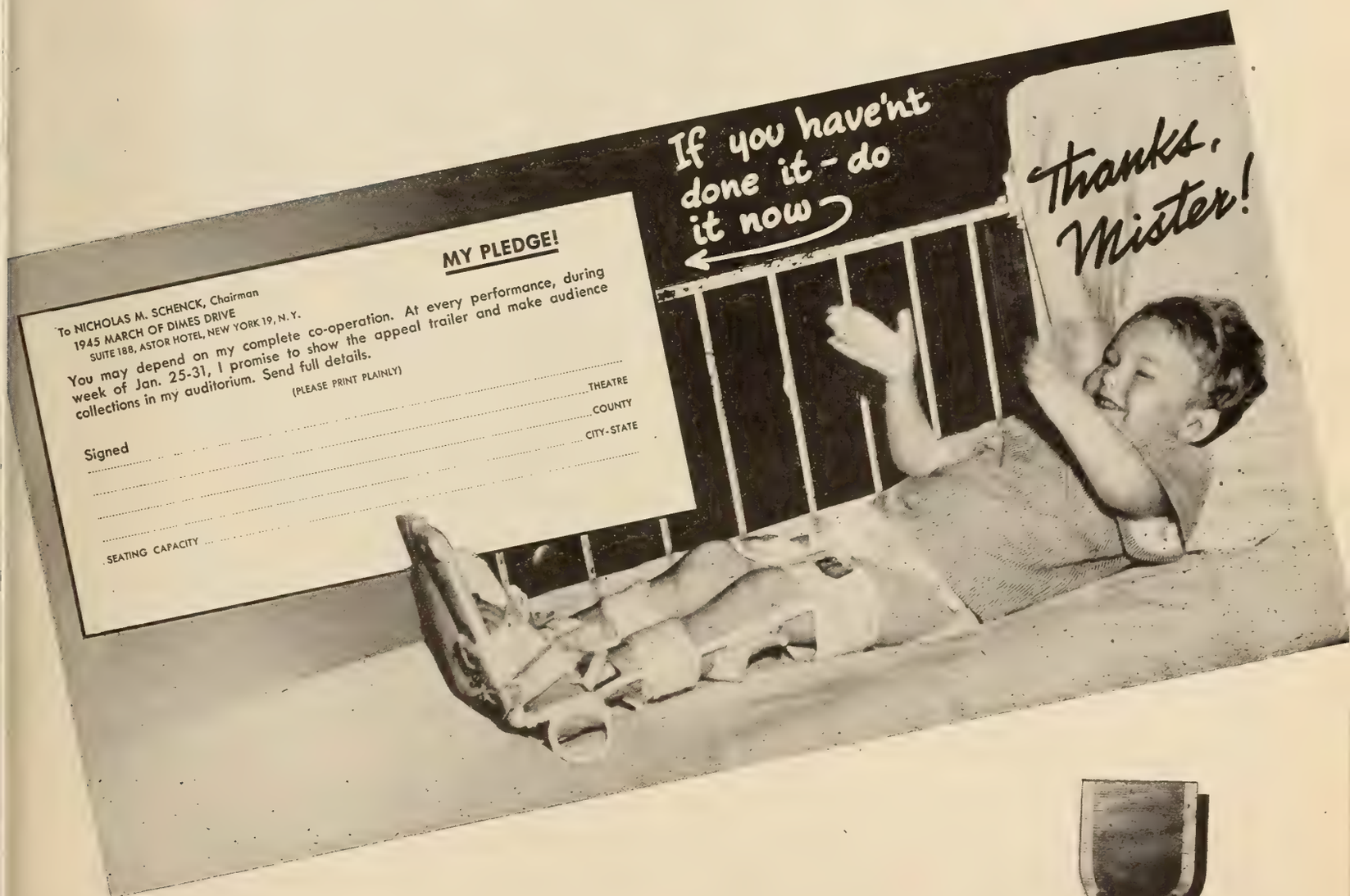
AND REMEMBER THOSE LESS FORTUNATE!



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Give her the full throttle . . . in Advertising . . . and let 'er whiz . . . Break all records . . . Keep blowing that old Advertising whistle continually . . . For you can't dawdle on the Spondoolix & Southern . . . procrastinate on the Mazuma & Western . . . or hesitate on the Gelt & North Eastern . . . You've got to give with the speed . . . Speed in telling the whole town what you've got . . . next week-day and next week-day . . . So throw her wide open with a full train of Accessories and Trailers . . . and you've got a clear track . . . for full houses ahead . . . Give her more and more Advertising steam and roll fast through the Big Receipts belt . . . straight to your terminal . . . The Bank!

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 122 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE FROM OFFICE COPY

5-10% First Quarter Raw Film Cut Due

WPB Will Set Quotas Today or Tomorrow

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—A further cut of five to 10 per cent in raw stock allocations for the industry for the first quarter of 1945 was in sight tonight as War Production Board, Army, Navy and other officials undertook their final analysis of the production-and-demand situation preparatory to setting the quotas within the next 48 hours.

Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the WPB photographic section, refused to comment on the situation but admitted that there now is only a very faint hope that fourth-quarter allocations can be continued for the coming three months. "A little too much war," he said when asked to define the major factor affecting the determination of the film program.

In other quarters, however, it was

(Continued on page 3)

Schenck Appoints Shubert to Drive

Lee Shubert was appointed yesterday by National Chairman Nicholas M. Schenck to head the legitimate theatre committee of the 1945 March of Dimes. Shubert will at once begin to organize audience collections not only in all of New York's houses but also in all cities where road-shows hold forth during the week of Jan. 25-31.

The industry's publicity committee for the forthcoming drive, headed by Ernest Emerling, yesterday mailed to to 16,500 theatres each a copy of the 1945 campaign book.

Exhibitors participating in the drive will be furnished with a full-color

(Continued on page 3)

U. S. to Drop Bioff Tax Evasion Suit

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26.—Acting on instructions from U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle, U. S. Attorney Charles H. Carr will ask Federal Judge Ralph E. Jenney, probably on Thursday, to dismiss a pending income tax evasion suit against Willie Bioff, West Coast racketeer.

The case here against Bioff, many times delayed during the trials which

(Continued on page 8)

Europe Likes U. S. Films

American motion pictures are being enthusiastically received in liberated areas of Europe and are fulfilling to the fullest expectations their psychological warfare functions, according to Louis Lober, acting chief of the motion picture bureau of the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information.

Through members of OWI and other Allied agencies engaged in psychological warfare, American films follow closely the advance of troops, bringing to the liberated populace their first picture of what has been happening in the war and in the world since occupation by the Nazis.

The reopening of undemolished theatres to civilians is dependent

(Continued on page 3)

M-G-M, WB, Mono. Set Spanish Films

"Gaslight," in Spanish, first of M-G-M's complete program to be dubbed in that language, has opened at the Metropolitan Theatre, Mexico City, with Dave Blum of the international department here, and Carlos Niebla, the company's Mexican manager, handling the opening. Other dates in other countries in South America are dependent on the back-

(Continued on page 3)

Key Film Monthly From Monogram

Hollywood, Dec. 26.—Monogram has embarked on a policy of releasing one important film each month. Release dates have been set on six.

The January release, on the 26th, will be "They Shall Have Faith." "Dillinger" will be released Feb. 23, "G. I. Honeymoon" on March 23 and "China's Little Devils," April 20. The release for May 25 will be "Divorce," to be produced jointly by Kay Francis and Jeffrey Bernerd.

W. K. Harrison to Administer CIAA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Activities of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs pending its final dissolution after the defeat of Germany will be administered by Wallace K. Harrison, New York architect, appointed Deputy Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

The appointment is in line with President Roosevelt's announcement Dec. 4 that no successor would be named to Nelson Rockefeller, appointed an Assistant Secretary of State. Rockefeller will cooperate with Harrison in directing the policies of the agency during the time necessary to integrate its program into the permanent structure of the Government and to wind up its strictly war-time activities.

Holiday Grosses Soar to New Highs on Broadway

Big holiday business is sending some Broadway first-runs to record and near-record grosses this week.

Radio City Music Hall, the Strand, Roxy and Capitol are among those doing big business but comparative honors go to the 720-seat Victoria, which completed a first week reissue run of "The Sign of the Cross" with a terrific $25,000. Also in the cheering section are the Globe, which expects a big $25,000 for the initial week of "Tomorrow the World," and the Rialto, where "House of Frankenstein" is continuing to shatter records with $15,000 expected for a second week.

"The Sign of the Cross" broke four house records in its first week, Maurice Maurer, operator of the theatre, yesterday reported. Maurer said the film had the biggest opening day's business, the biggest take in a single day, the biggest weekend gross, and the biggest week's business of any film ever shown at the Victoria.

With $96,000 recorded in the first five days of a second week and with long lines yesterday, the Music Hall is headed for a near-record $129,000 for the second week of "National Velvet," plus a holiday stage show. "Winged Victory" got off slowly at the Roxy, but started to build over the weekend and brought a strong $104,000 for the first seven days, ending last night. The Roxy stage show, featuring the Nicholas Brothers and Jack Durant has been trimmed to 30

(Continued on page 8)

Booth Plans Unaffected by Nazi Offensive

411 Projectors Will Be Made as Previously Set

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Sharp restrictions to be imposed on civilian production as a result of the increased demand for war goods created by the German counter-offensive will not affect the booth equipment program of the War Production Board for the coming quarter, it was learned here today.

Although top WPB officials now are re-arranging production schedules on the basis of an indefinite continuance of the war in Europe, it will be possible, they said, to carry out the recently approved commitment calling for the delivery next quarter of 411 projectors, compared with 335 during the current quarter, and a correspondingly increased volume of other items programmed by

(Continued on page 8)

Floyd Odlum Enters Television Abroad

Floyd B. Odlum, president of Atlas Corp., large stockholder of RKO and numerous other corporations, yesterday announced here the acquisition of interests in the "Societe de Gerance de Radio Imperial of Tangiers," which operates the radio station in the International Zone of Tangiers and plans to build and operate television, broadcasting, wireless communication and facsimile stations in various parts of the French Empire.

Atlas expects to assist in the development of the system, it was said. The general plan, as formulated with the French authorities, contemplates the installation and operation as soon as conditions permit of stations at the

(Continued on page 8)

SAG May Strike to Head Off SPU Gain

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—Conflicting jurisdictional claims of the Screen Actors Guild and the Screen Players Union today threatened to result in a strike of the former organization's members if the producers employ SPU members for "stunts, bits and singing roles."

A delegation of ranking stars head-

(Continued on page 3)

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic's president, will return to New York from the Coast after the first of the year.

•

J. EISENBERG of Loew's legal department, NAT EISENSTADT of the accounting department, and IRWIN MARGOLES of M-G-M's legal department have returned to New York from vacations in Florida.

•

J. DON ALEXANDER, president of Alexander Films Co., and chairman of the board of General Screen Advertising, Inc., will arrive in New York the latter part of January from Colorado Springs.

•

MARGARET O'BRIEN, M-G-M star, will arrive in New York Jan. 5 from the Coast, en route to Washington, where she will open the March of Dimes drive with a radio broadcast.

•

B. V. STURDIVANT, Northern California division manager for Fox West Coast Theatres, has been re-elected a director of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.

•

LT. COL. JACK MULHALL, former district manager for Warner Theatres in Philadelphia, is in Atlantic City recuperating from wounds received in action.

•

S. E. PIERPOINT, Paramount manager for Brazil, accompanied by MRS. PIERPOINT and their son, SURSE, left New York for Hollywood yesterday.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram vice-president and general sales manager, will leave Hollywood Jan. 5 for a three-month tour of exchanges.

•

SAM STECKER of Associated Theatres, Cleveland, will leave there Jan. 5 to spend the Winter in California.

•

DAVID E. ROSE, Paramount's managing director in England, and MRS. ROSE left yesterday for Hollywood.

•

CHARLES LESTER, Atlanta division manager of National Screen Service, is visiting Florida on business.

•

FRANCIS HARMON, vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee, was in Washington yesterday.

•

HARRY EISENBERG, Boston district manager for Lieberman's circuit, is the father of a daughter.

•

MILTON SILVER entered Beth Israel Hospital here Christmas Day for an operation.

•

IRVING BERLIN is in the Dutch East Indies on a USO tour.

Cinema to Be Host

Local exchange managers will attend a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here today sponsored by Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith. Al Schwalberg of International Pictures will preside.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Dec. 26

IT turned dewy here for Christmas, proving the rainy season made the grade about on annual schedule. Holiday spirit, running high and on the handsome side, was dampened further, if only marginally, by a one-time extra named Dennis O'Keefe. He is now rather widely known through advertising, publicity and playdates arranged and sold by the very companies he seems to think are taking advantage of him. And, through him, actors at large.

Virginia MacPherson, United Press correspondent, says these words tumbled from O'Keefe's mouth although nowhere does she say she thinks they tumbled carelessly: "Take stage actors. They get paid for every performance and when they stop acting, their pay stops. But with screen actors, it's different." Hollywood's underprivileged, he observes, draw salary only while the picture is in production.

"Then the producer makes hundreds of prints of his work and ships 'em all over the country. His performance is seen over and over again, and every time it draws money." What causes the worry is the actor never sees any of it.

■

With an eye toward Gary Cooper and Jim Cagney, the O'Keefian theory calls for small salary under a profit-sharing arrangement, yet acknowledges the producer has an answer which is he takes the chance on the picture—good or bad—and pays the actor even if all the customers decide to stay home and read a book. "But in these days, it takes a genius to make a bad picture. Houses are so packed, all the theatre manager has to do is to open the door and get out of the way."

What O'Keefe does not say, and his interviewer apparently neglected to ask him, was a pointed question or two about the difference in wage scales between a stage performance and a film performance. The simple mathematics in the answer might have demonstrated which way O'Keefe, that underdog, is better off.

■ ■

Resentment on a pretty broad scale filtered into the Yuletide scene on another score, and a far more significant one than an actor and his bleatings. Those New York critics who took a poke at Hollywood for patting itself on the back via "Hollywood Canteen" are accused of sectionalism and unwarranted cracks.

The basis of the accusation rests on the claim the attraction puts on display Hollywood's flare for immodesty and its propensity for over-indulgent self-praise, in turn leading to evidences of bad taste.

We take sharp exception to this kind of approach. The story of the Canteen, if undertaken at all, at once meant the production colony would be putting a best foot forward. It meant telling the history of the establishment, giving full credit to the more than 40 unions and guilds which ignored all other purposes for the one at hand.

■

There is starry-eyed fictional content in "Hollywood Canteen," of course, but why not in an enterprise designed chiefly for purposes of entertainment insofar as public consumption is concerned? Dramatic license may have been employed, but it was applied reasonably and with general believability.

It has been reported in this column that the Canteen hopes to swell its treasury by approximately $2,000,000 under its deal with the Warners and that this fund is to be earmarked for post-war rehabilitation work among former members of the armed services. This is not only laudable, but it is worthy of commendation. So, too, is the vehicle through which such a program is to become an actuality.

■ ■

David Selznick and Danny O'Shea recently determined to reach their offices on the stroke of nine each morning. Defaulters agreed to pay $1 for every late minute. This is what happened:

The first morning Selznick arrived 74 minutes late.

The second morning he reached his desk 154 minutes late.

The third morning, the agreement was abrogated.

■ ■

Grad Sears held his current Hollywood trip to five days. On the question, "How is it going these days?" he replied:

"How is it? United Artists has a backlog." Then he repeated, slower this time: *"United Artists has a backlog."*

Radio-Video Has 277,660 Workers

Estimates of 202 companies, representing 64.9 per cent of television and radio manufacturers, show a prospective post-war industry employment of only 145,266, according to the Radio Manufacturers Association. Current employment is 277,660, of which 36,374 are in the armed services. The War Production Board employment estimate for all electronic manufacturers is 300,000.

The RMA survey showed an increase of 180 per cent over 1940. Women represented 51.9 per cent of those employed in 1940 and 64.6 per cent currently. It is estimated that 23.6 per cent of the men and 27.9 per cent of the women presently employed will not seek work in the industry for various reasons in the post-war, and that 28.5 per cent of present employes will be forced to seek employment elsewhere, due to cutbacks and the return of men now in the armed services.

Williford Is Named Ansco Division Head

E. A. Williford, general sales manager of the carbon products division of National Carbon, Inc., has been named vice-president in charge of the Ansco division of the General Aniline and Film Corp., it was reported here yesterday by George W. Burpee, president. Williford, identified with the photography field for many years, is a past president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers and has been associated with National Carbon for the past 24 years.

Ansco, with headquarters in Binghamton, N. Y., manufactures photographic products and since the war has been producing precision instruments.

May Name Successor To Towell Tomorrow

Twentieth Century-Fox's board of directors is scheduled to meet here tomorrow. Consideration of a successor to the late Sydney Towell, vice-president and treasurer, who died recently of injuries sustained in an automobile accident, is expected.

Music Hall Gives Bonus

Employees of Radio City Music Hall and the Center Theatre have been given a holiday bonus for the first time in the history of either theatre, Gus Eyssell, managing director has announced. Bonus is a week's salary up to a maximum of $100 for employees of a year or more, and graduated amounts for others.

NBC to Honor Newsmen

NBC will honor its commentators, H. V. Kaltenborn, John Cooper, Stanley Richardson, Ralph Howard, Elmer Peterson, Max Hill and Roy Porter at a press luncheon at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria here tomorrow.

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Schenck Appoints Shubert to Drive

(Continued from page 1)

lithographed one-sheet 'Citation' poster, signed by Schenck and Foundation President Basil O'Connor. The 'Heart-of-Humanity' medal is reproduced in four colors. The posters will be distributed through National Screen Exchanges.

Following suggestions made by a number of exhibitors, the publicity committee has prepared a 'Thank You!' one-sheet which is being mailed with the campaign books. Each exhibitor is to insert the amount of his collections in the blank space.

"Up to now we have not received one single negative reply from any circuit in the United States," circuit chairman J. R. Vogel reported here yesterday. Vogel is contacting circuits to get blanket pledges for the drive and replies received up to yesterday covered theatres with over 4,000,000 seats. Every circuit replying has signified 100 per cooperation in the drive.

Hope, Langford Again In 'March of Dimes'

Bob Hope has been reappointed chairman of the servicemen's division for the 1945 "March of Dimes" campaign, with Frances Langford again serving as vice-chairman. Appointments were made by Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Hope and Miss Langford will visit military camps from Jan. 14 to Jan. 31, telling of the campaign. No direct solicitation will be made, but soldiers will be told that 1944 was the second worst year in the nations' recorded history of the disease.

Buckley Dies, Former Albany Independent

BENNINGTON, Vt., Dec. 26.—Funeral services for Christopher H. Buckley, once the largest independent theatre operator in Albany, were held here Christmas Eve.

He had operated the Island, Clinton Square, Albany, Harmanus Bleecker Hall and Palace in Albany, and the Empire in Glens Falls. Buckley sold his Albany interests 10 years ago, and then operated the General Stark in Bennington. His widow, four sons and a daughter survive.

Services for Stafford

PARDEEVILLE, Wis., Dec. 26.—Funeral services were held here Saturday for Warren L. Stafford, 52, head of supplies and stock for Balaban and Katz.

Puchalski Honored

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 26.—Pvt. William Puchalski, formerly of the Calvin Theatre, Northampton, Mass., has been posthumously honored with the Presidential Unit citation and for exceptional bravery. Puchalski was killed at Guadalcanal in Aug., 1942.

WANTED
ANIMATION-CAMERAMAN
High Pay—Excellent Opportunity
CINEFFECTS
1600 Broadway New York City
Circle 6-6252

U. S. Films Successful In Liberated Countries

(Continued from page 1)

solely on resumption of electric power as permitted by the Allied Military Government.

In France, where physical distribution of Hollywood films was turned over to the film industry just five months after Allied landings in Normandy. Many theatre owners visited Allied Information Service offices and expressed eagerness to show American films.

Before the liberation of France, about 3,825 theatres were open in the metropolitan areas. Of this number, eight to 10 per cent are now closed: some having been destroyed, some being located in the combat zones, and others put out of operation by the shortage of electricity. In most instances, however, the power problem merely limits the number of weekly performances.

Loyal Employes

The rapid return of American films to normal commercial channels was facilitated through the cooperation of loyal French employes. During the past three years, many of these had risked their lives to hide and protect both the films and properties of their companies.

To aid in bringing the people up to date on Allied film activities for the past four years, American and British film trade journals are being sent to France and articles from them given to the press. Biographies of new stars developed in these years are also being released.

In September the French government placed the following regulations on the film industry: no German, Italian, Japanese, anti-French, nor anti-national films could be shown; all French films, including those produced before 1940, were to be re-censored; about 500 films banned between 1940 and 1944 were approved; programs limited to a maximum length of about 11,800 feet and all double features prohibited.

As a safety measure against the possibility of employing persons who worked for the enemy in France, names of applicants for supervisory work with American companies are submitted to the French Comite de Liberation before they are hired.

One striking result of German occupation is the development of the 16 mm field in France. Whereas there were few 16 mm projectors before the war, there are now reported to be between four and five thousand machines available, not only for use in schools and universities, but also in commercial circuits. American 16 mm films are much in demand. It is also reported that printing of American pictures may be possible soon. Operation of the French Kodak plant depends on when coal can be obtained.

The situation in Italy is vastly different. More than a year after the Armstice, exhibition and distribution of all films is still subject to control by the Army's Psychological Warfare Branch. Italy nurtured fascism for 25 years, and the process there is much more than one of liberation. Following closely behind the battle lines, PWB frequently had trouble finding undemolished theatres not requisitioned by either the Army or the Red Cross. Nevertheless, by late October more than 1,000 motion picture houses were showing to a daily average of 1,000,000 civilians. Skilled cameramen, laboratory facilities, and technical personnel are available in Rome, but there is urgent need of raw stock and chemicals.

Belgian Situation

When PWD's film section went into Belgium, it found theatres that had survived war already doing a thriving business with some programs left over from 1940 and hidden during German occupation. PWD started distribution of selected films at its disposal in Brussels on Sept. 29. The majority of demands were for war films and old newsreels covering the entire period of the war. By the end of October, 412 theatres were showing the Allied newsreels prepared for Belgium, 476 by the middle of November.

In Greece, where physical conditions for showing films are also poor, few pre-war features have survived Nazi occupation, and arrangements are being made for showing of films selected by OWI. Communications outside of cities are slowly opening and arrangements completed to give these films fullest possible circulation.

Reports from the Balkans on the survival of American films under Nazi rule are uncertain, but from all Nazi-dominated countries come reports of civilian impatience to receive Hollywood product again.

M-G-M, WB, Mono. Set Spanish Films

(Continued from page 1)

log of films with super-imposed titles. M-G-M will shortly follow with "White Cliffs of Dover" and "Dragon Seed."

Warners, another which has manifested interest in a Spanish-dubbing program, will open "To Have and Have Not" in Mexico and Cuba toward the end of January, to be followed by "Objective Burma" and "Roughly Speaking."

Monogram is expected to launch the first of six dubbed Spanish films, "Lady, Let's Dance," at the Alameda, Mexico City, where Jack Lamont, branch manager, is in charge. Puerto Rico and Cuba will get the film subsequently.

Skouras and Rubin To Aid Yugoslavia

Producers, actors, playwrights and others have joined with the sponsors of the American Committee for the Yugoslav Relief Ship, organized to send a ship with clothing and supplies to the people of Yugoslavia.

Included in sponsors are: Spyros Skouras, J. Robert Rubin, Eddie Cantor, John Garfield, Walter Wanger, Herman Shumlin, Edward G. Robinson, Libby Holman, George Jessel, Kenneth MacGowan, Jean Benoit-Levy, Edward Chodorov, Gale Sondergaard, Rosemary Lane and others.

Winburn's New Theatre

BRANFORD, Fla., Dec. 26.—Ed Winburn will open a new theatre in his circuit here this week.

SAG May Strike to Head Off SPU Gain

(Continued from page 1)

ed by SAG president George Murphy told studio heads and casting directors, at a meeting held in response to an SAG request, that any employment of others than SAG members for "acting work" would be considered a breach of the basic agreement.

SPU, which recently won a National Labor Relations Board election, is in dispute with SAG for jurisdiction over types of work specified in the SAG ultimatum. SAG has relinquished control of "extra players" to SPU but interprets "extra players" as limited to non-speaking, non-singing, non-stunt work.

Simultaneously, an SPU spokesman released to the press the text of a wire sent the producers, charging them with favoring SAG by departing from the status quo in permitting the Central Casting Bureau to list SAG members and other persons for work over which SPU claims the recent election gave them jurisdiction. The telegram charged that the producers' action appeared to be a violation of the Wagner Act and stated an intention to file charges with the NLRB unless a satisfactory reply is forthcoming from the producers. The producers assured SAG they had no intention of violating the basic agreement but pointed out that they are placed in a "difficult" position by the conflict over jurisdiction.

5-10% First Quarter Raw Stock Cut Due

(Continued from page 1)

learned that there is practically no chance of maintaining present quotas and that a cut of at least five and possibly 10 per cent will have to be made to insure the filling of minimum military requirements.

The changed situation in Europe occasioned by the German counter-offensive has made it necessary to place the hoped-for accessions of product from factories in France and Holland in the 'possible' rather than the 'probable' class, and the recently tightened manpower situation has reduced hopes of increased output from plants in this country, although some minor additions to facilities will come into operation within the next few weeks.

With the new quarter now only a few days away, it was said, the raw stock program must be settled this week in order that film manufacturers may know where their output is to go beginning next Monday, and it is expected that the pattern will be set tomorrow or Thursday.

Blowitz to Pickford

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—Bill Blowitz has resigned from the Paramount publicity department to handle press relations for Mary Pickford, effective Jan. 8.

WANTED — SECRETARY
FOR PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT.
Leading Independent. Good Opportunity. Must Be Experienced.
BOX 240, Motion Picture Daily.

HOW TO USHER

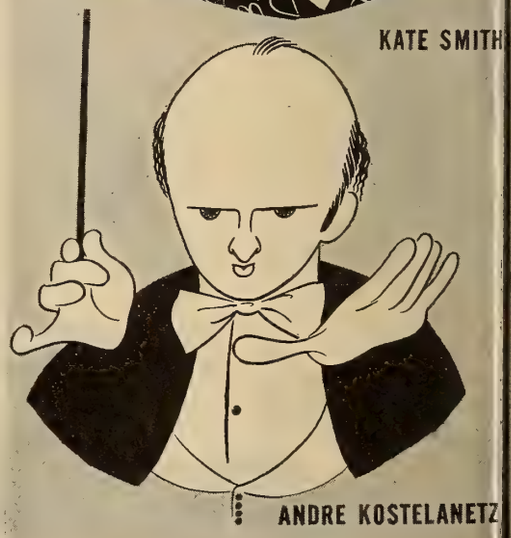
IN THE NEW YEAR!

Keep Selling Bonds!

The CBS WINNERS in the U.S. Radio Editors' 1944 Poll

GEORGE BURNS AND GRACIE ALLEN

KATE SMITH



ANDRE KOSTELANETZ

More than 600 newspaper radio editors throughout the U.S. and Canada were asked by Motion Picture Daily to nominate their 1944 radio leaders in 25 different classifications of programming and performance.

They nominated CBS personalities or programs in 21 of the 25 classes; the second network received nominations in 19 classes; the third network in 14 classes; the fourth network in one.

Beside declaring that CBS produced the "Best News Job By Radio In 1944," this formidable jury conferred specific honors on the CBS headliners whose pictures you see here—all of whom appeared regularly on the Columbia network during 1944.

The record should note too the honors conferred on certain CBS programs not here illustrated: *The American School of the Air* (among the "Best of Daytime Programs"); Ted Husing (among the "Best Sports Announcers"); *Let's Pretend* (declared the "Best Program for Children").

To the members of this sizeable and seasoned jury, on behalf of CBS artists and producers, goes the Network's respectful appreciation.

This is CBS . . . the Columbia Broadcasting System

Booth Plans Unaffected by Nazi Offensive

(Continued from page 1)

Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment division.

The WPB, however, will not ask the Army and Navy to release for theatre distribution any of their fourth quarter allocations which they did not take, largely because it will now be necessary to ask for some of the equipment to fill increased export requirements.

The preferred position which the booth equipment program occupies is due to the fact that the manufacturers have so far been able to produce for theatres, without any interference with war orders, a requisite for the production of civilian goods, and the satisfactory inventories which have been built up in anticipation of possible emergency military demands.

Practically all other civilian programs for the coming quarter, however, will be held down to fourth-quarter levels so that all possible energies can be devoted to meeting General Eisenhower's needs for equipment to replace that lost, destroyed or worn out in recent battles.

Reconversion plans, which a few months ago were the major subject of conversation in Washington, have all been tied up in a neat bundle and put on a high shelf, and there will be no further talk of the revival of a peacetime economy until Germany is not only apparently, but very definitely defeated.

Holiday Grosses Soar to New Highs on Broadway

(Continued from page 1)

minutes and the theatre is opening its doors at eight a.m. this week. The Music Hall has the earliest opening, at 7:45 a.m. for the week.

The Strand expects to set an all-time Christmas week gross with "Hollywood Canteen" and a stage bill featuring Lionel Hampton and his band. Receipts for the first four days of a second week were over $37,000, and $63,000 is expected for the week, which will about equal the big initial week's gross.

"Music for Millions" and a stage presentation with Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra is helping the Capitol to a big $75,000 for the week. "Meet Me in St. Louis" had a big fourth week at the Astor, with $34,000 recorded. "To Have and Have Not" is holding up well at the Hollywood, with $21,000 expected for an 11th week.

Elsewhere along Broadway business is quiet but generally satisfactory. "And Now Tomorrow" and a stage show concluded a fifth and final week at the Paramount last night with a $55,000 gross; "Here Come the Waves" and a stage show featuring Woody Herman and his band will open there this morning. "Frenchman's Creek" will conclude a 14-week stay at the Rivoli tonight, with $21,000 expected for the final eight days; "The Keys of the Kingdom" will open at the Rivoli Friday morning. The final five days of a second week of "The Climax" brought the Criterion a modest $16,000 and "Can't Help Singing" opened big on Christmas Day with indications of a record first week at that house.

Disappointing were "Three Is a Family," at the Gotham, and "Lake Placid Serenade," at the Republic. A poor $8,000 is expected for the first week of "Three Is a Family," and an equally poor $5,000 is expected for "Lake Placid Serenade." "Tall in the Saddle" is holding up well at the Palace, with $20,000 expected for its second and final week; "Experiment Perilous" will open there Friday.

Floyd Odlum Enters Television Abroad

(Continued from page 1)

following points: Martinique, French Guiana, Guadaloupe, French territories in India, Madagascar and la Reunion, New Caledonia, Oceanic Settlements, Clipperton Island and St. Pierre et Miquelon.

Charles Michelson of Paris, who has been identified with these projects since 1936, will remain active.

Ray Fisher Wounded

HARTFORD, Dec. 26.—Pvt. Ray Fisher, formerly assistant manager at Warner's Regal here, was wounded in action in Luxembourg, Oct. 15. He is recuperating in England.

FWC Buys Theatre

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—Fox West Coast Theatres has bought the 1,100-seat Fox Fullerton Theatre in California for a reported $250,000.

U. S. to Drop Bioff Tax Evasion Suit

(Continued from page 1)

preceded his conviction and imprisonment for conspiracy to extort funds from film companies, was based on an alleged $86,000 discrepancy in his 1937 tax returns.

Bioff, along with George E. Browne, former IATSE president, was released from jail last Friday by order of Federal Judge John C. Knox in U. S. District Court in New York, as a "reward" for his cooperation in convicting the "Chicago Mob," which preyed upon the industry between 1935 and 1939.

Press dispatches from Chicago tonight reported that Bioff would join the Merchant Marine.

Ginsberg Reports $13,945,000 Buy

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—Henry Ginsberg, chairman of the Hollywood War Finance Committee, disclosed here today that the semi-final total of Sixth War Loan bond purchases by individuals in studios, guilds and unions, was $13,945,000, with the campaign to continue through Dec. 31.

M-G-M Bond Purchases

For the third consecutive bond drive, M-G-M's field employees have each purchased an extra war bond for a 100 per cent representation.

Pitkin's Million Sale

Loew's Pitkin Theatre, Brooklyn, has sold $1,025,675 in 'E' bonds during the Sixth War Loan Drive.

Prelude to hilarious fun with sensational Vera Hruba Ralston and comedy team, Walter Catlett, Vera Vague and William Frawley, is this climactic moment in Republic's musical frolic, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE."

ADVT.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 123 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1944 TEN CENTS

Growing Use Of Radio Ads To Sell Films

Favor Local Campaigns Over Network Programs

Motion picture advertising managers are displaying a growing preference for local radio campaigns of 52 weeks of spot announcements to promote new films in place of national network programs which were recently used and abandoned by M-G-M and RKO Radio, a survey by MOTION PICTURE DAILY discloses.

The result has been a boom during 1944 to local independent radio stations, especially in New York. One of the outstanding beneficiaries of this trend in selling films via radio is station WNEW here. The station claims to have derived more advertising reve-

(*Continued on page* 5)

N. Y. Theatres Sell $36,864,922 Bonds

The sale of Sixth War Loan bonds continues at a strong pace in New York area theatres. The last official report which carries through Dec. 17 records the sale of "E" bonds in theatres at $7,713,356 ahead of those sold in the Fifth Loan Drive.

The official breakdown as of Dec.

(*Continued on page* 5)

Red Cross Poster Designs Due Jan. 8

Deadline for home office art departments and advertising agencies to submit sketches in the press book cover and lobby poster contest being held in connection with the 1945 Red Cross War Fund Week, in March, has been extended from yesterday until Jan. 8. Sketches of any size, but designed for 30x40 proportions, are eligible and should be submitted to S. Barret McCormick or Harry Mandel, campaign publicity directors, at the RKO home office. No prize is being offered, but the winning design will be signed by the artist, and he and his company will be credited and given all possible publicity.

Broadway Theatres To Average $2 Top On New Year's Eve

Broadway's 15 theatres in the Times Square area have completed plans for New Year's Eve celebrations with every theatre running at least one extra show and some running on a grind policy through the night and into Monday morning. Price scales will range from $1.20 to $2.20 top for the midnight show. All theatres are pleading for extra ushers and police protection. Many will board up windows and all of the box office except cash and ticket apertures.

The most elaborate plans are those of the Roxy, which plans to run to 3 a.m. and even later if the traffic will bear repetition. Price scales will range from 95 cents at noon to $2.20 at night. A special midnight celebration is planned with audience partici-

(*Continued on page* 9)

'Kingdom' To Have Premiere Tonight

Twentieth Century-Fox's invitational premiere of A. J. Cronin's "Keys of the Kingdom," at the Rivoli tonight will be attended by notables from society, clergy, publishing world, including trade papers, exhibitors and company executives.

Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox president, will head a contingent of home office executives which will include National Theatres president Charles Skouras, and 20th-Fox vice-presidents W. C. Michel, Tom Connors, Murray Silverstone and Joseph H. Moskowitz. Others who will attend are: general sales manager W. J. Kupper, sales managers W. C. Gehring, A. W.

(*Continued on page* 8)

Raw Stock Meeting Now Set for Jan. 4

The meeting in Washington between War Production Board officials and representatives of the film companies to discuss raw stock allocations for the first three months of 1945, tentatively scheduled for today, has been postponed until next Thursday, Jan. 4.

Company representatives received wires from the WPB yesterday advising them of the new date for the meeting.

Alabama Sets Pace In 'Dimes' Pledges

Alabama is the first state over the top in the enrollment of theatres in the 1945 March of Dimes, according to national headquarters tabulations yesterday. The state already has three more theatres pledged than the total number in last year's drive. R. M. Kennedy and R. B. Wilby are co-chairmen for Alabama.

Rhode Island, with E. M. Fay, chairman, is running a close second.

Meanwhile, many state chairmen of the drive are making a special effort to enlist more theatres catering to Negroes. They are having the cooperation of Charles H. Bynum, director of Negro activities of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. In the 1944 drive, 179 Negro theatres participated and collected $34,481. In the 1945 drive it is hoped to have every one of the 409 Negro theatres enrolled and that $75,000 in collections will be returned.

The Greer Garson appeal trailer, "The Miracle of Hickory," shows scenes during the North Carolina polio epidemic. Negro children are among the victims pictured.

Admissions' Peak Passed; U.S. Reports Record Pay

There has been a drop of from two to three per cent in theatre attendance since last April, indicating that the peak in attendance has been passed, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned here yesterday from circuit executives.

It was also learned that receipts were off as much as 20 per cent during the past few weeks before the onset of holiday business.

Circuit representatives attribute the drop in theatre admissions to the cutbacks in the war production program which hit many sections of the country. They point out that whereas last year theatre patrons appeared willing to accept any type of films, they are now displaying more of an attitude of selecting the better films, resulting in less frequent attendance.

Actual over-all theatre grosses have remained at a high level, it is pointed out, since there has been a continued increase in the numbers of patrons attending first-run showings and paying high admission prices.

Many factors are advanced by the

(*Continued on page* 8)

Crescent Must Divest Houses By May 16th

Procedure Shaping Up; Counsel Sees No Delay

NASHVILLE, Dec. 27.—Under the terms of the Federal court injunction by Judge Elmer D. Davies ordered May 16, 1944, and affirmed by the U. S. Supreme Court December 11, Tony Sudekum, K. C. Stengel, and Louis Rosenbaum, defendants in the Government's anti-trust suit against Crescent Amusement Co. and six affiliated corporations, must dispose of their interests in 47 theatres in 23 towns in Tennessee, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Alabama, by May 16, 1945, according to George H. Armistead, chief counsel for Crescent. "We are working on it now and do not expect any difficulty in carrying out the terms of the divesture order in the time given us," Armistead said.

Although affected by the injunction against franchises or other film li-

(*Continued on page* 5)

N. Y. Critics Vote 'Way' as '44 Best

"Going My Way" was voted the best picture of 1944 by the N. Y. Film Critics. Members met yesterday at the offices of the N. Y. Newspaper Guild and, of the 16 votes cast, "Going My Way" received 11, as against four for "Wilson." Other films which received votes were "Hail the Conquering Hero", "Double Indemnity" and "Thunder Rock."

Barry Fitzgerald was voted as having given the best male performance of the year, in "Going My Way," and

(*Continued on page* 5)

Uncensored Films To England Jan. 1

Washington, Dec. 27.—It is expected here that the Office of Censorship on Jan. 1 will terminate its censorship of films consigned to and from England. It is believed, however, that the export and import restrictions to and from other countries, exercised by the Los Angeles Board of Review as a branch of the Office of Censorship, will continue in effect.

Pledge Support to Cinema Fund Drive

New York film exchange and independent circuit representatives pledged all-out support to the souvenir journal fund-raising campaign of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here yesterday in honor of Alfred W. Schwalberg, Eastern representative of International Pictures.

The New York exchange representatives constituted themselves a committee to contact all circuits and theatres in this territory for support of Cinema's campaign after Schwalberg had outlined the lodge's important activities. Among those who attended the luncheon were Sam Rinzler, Max A. Cohen, Louis Brandt, Bernie P. Brooks, Norman Elson, Martin Levine, Edward M. Schnitzer, David Levy, Ben Abner, Clarence Eisman, Martin Moskowitz, Jack Ellis, Morris Sanders, Sam Goodman, Henry Randel, Sam Lefkowitz, Nat Goldberg, Harry Decker, Joe Ingber, Sid Stockton and Max Blackman.

SAG Will Abolish 'B' Memberships

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 27.—Screen Actors Guild announced today official abolishment of its Class B membership classification by Feb. 1, setting the same date as a deadline for extra players in that classification to apply for A-Junior status if desirous of doing active work.

The move finalizes SAG relinquishment and jurisdictional control of atmosphere players, who recently voted in favor of the Screen Players Union, simultaneously opening the SAG door to any who desire to continue under the guild.

The Screen Players Union, which claims jurisdiction over both atmosphere players and those performing what SAG terms "acting work," has called a special meeting for tomorrow night to nominate officers, decide on eligibility rules and discuss the possibilities of filing unfair labor practice charges against the producers under the Wagner Act. The latter step has been suggested because the Central Casting Bureau is listing SAG members and other persons for work over which SPU claims the recent National Labor Relations Board election gave them jurisdiction.

Exhibitors Halt Minn. Tax Move

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 27.—An industry move here, led by John Friedl, head of Minnesota Amusement Co., succeeded in blocking two proposed measures, authored by a committee of approximately 400 Minnesota mayors, designed to levy a local tax on theatre tickets.

Friedl, with branch managers, salesmen and others, contacted Minnesota exhibitors, urging them to protest the move to their mayors, with the result that the proposals, which, if approved, would have been presented at the next state legislature, were shelved.

Personal Mention

SGT. BURT BALABAN, Marine combat photographer and son of BARNEY BALABAN, president of Paramount, has left for the West Coast for reassignment following a 28-day furlough which he spent with his family in New York.

•

"SNAKE" RICHARDSON, Universal's branch manager in New Orleans, is visiting friends in Atlanta for the holidays.

•

TED BARKER has been appointed publicist for Loew's State and Orpheum Theatres in St. Louis.

•

C. E. PEPPIATT, 20th Century-Fox branch manager in Washington, is in Atlanta for the holidays.

•

HAROLD LAIRD, branch manager for Republic in Tampa, Fla., is in Atlanta on business.

•

IKE and HARRY KATZ, PRC franchise holders in the Atlanta territory, have returned there from New York.

•

WILBUR B. ENGLAND, RKO Theatres executive, will return to New York from Cleveland today.

•

BEN MIGGINS, 20th-Fox Continental European manager, is observing his 32nd year in the industry.

KAY KAMEN, Walt Disney Enterprises representative, is en route to Hollywood from New York.

•

C. P. O. BEN MANCUSO, formerly of the JIMMY SILEO staff, holder of two Presidential citations, a Wake Island commendation ribbon and the Air Medal, has arrived in New York on a 30-day leave.

•

MURRAY LEBOSS, general manager of the Cinema Circuit, and MRS. LEBOSS, are the parents of a seven-pound boy born yesterday at the Flower Fifth Ave. Hospital here.

•

MILTON K. ROBINSON, secretary of Eastman Kodak Co., has been named to the Monroe County Savings Bank board of directors.

•

H. ALBAN MESTANZA, in charge of foreign language production for Monogram, and ELIANE HENNO, also of the foreign department, were married this week.

•

KATE HOROWITZ, former secretary to JOSEPH H. HAZEN, has been named secretary to BEN KALMENSON, Warners general sales manager.

•

HELEN HAYES is recuperating from a throat ailment at the Netherlands Plaza hotel in Cincinnati.

Localize Steffes Testimonial Dinner

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 27.—The testimonial planned by the Twin City Variety club for W. A. Steffes, retiring chief barker, as a national affair, has been cancelled at the request of Steffes who said "it would in no way aid the war effort, which is our first duty."

New plans for an exclusively local stag luncheon honoring Steffes have been completed. The affair, to be attended by the Governor of Minnesota; Twin Cities' mayors, civic officials and press and radio representatives, will be held Jan. 5 at the Nicollet Hotel here.

RKO Producing Macy Television Series

RKO Television Corp. will produce a series of television shows for Macy's department store on WABD, the DuMont New York station, starting Jan. 3.

The programs will be five-minute spots devoted exclusively to shopping information, with Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice-president of RKO Television Corp., stressing that it will be a new idea in television programming. Miss Martha Manning, Macy's shopping adviser, will be featured.

Mark 25 Years of Radio

Brigadier General David Sarnoff, on military leave as president of RCA and chairman of the board of NBC, will lead off the celebration of the 25th year of radio broadcasting when he appears on the NBC "Army Hour" broadcast Sunday.

Court Dismisses Tax Suit Against Bioff

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 27.—As forecast this morning in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Federal Judge Ralph E. Jenney today dismissed the pending income tax evasion suit against Willie Bioff, who was convicted of conspiracy to extort funds from film companies but was released from jail last week by order of the New York Federal District Court as a "reward" for helping convict the "Chicago Mob," which preyed upon the industry between 1935 and 1939.

Dismissal of the suit here, based on an alleged $86,000 discrepancy in Bioff's 1937 tax returns, was requested by U. S. Attorney Charles H. Carr, acting upon instructions from U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle.

Kestenbaum Resigns

Sam Kestenbaum resigned yesterday from Columbia's home office exploitation department, of which he has been a member for the past several months. His future plans are indefinite. Kestenbaum formerly was director of advertising for PRC and earlier was associated with Monogram, Republic, Grand National, Fox Films and other companies.

U. S. Honors Eastman

ROCHESTER, Dec. 27.—Sixteen stars soon will adorn pennants over the four local plants of Eastman Kodak Co., four each on the Army-Navy E pennants at Kodak Park, Camera Works, Hawk-Eye and Kodak Office. The company was given its fourth white star last week, signifying the fifth Army-Navy Production Award has been made.

WAC to Release 3 Subjects in Jan.

The War Activities Committee yesterday announced three new shorts for January distribution. They are a two-reel Navy film of the Philippine invasion called "Brought to Action," to be released Jan. 11 through United Artists, with M-G-M handling the film in Albany, Des Moines, Memphis, Oklahoma City and Portland. The second, a War Department film produced by Army Pictorial Service and distributed by 20th Century-Fox, is called "What's Your Name?," and deals with war workers. It will be released Jan. 18.

The last, a Red Cross film produced by March of Time, is as yet untitled and dramatizes the American Red Cross. RKO will distribute and the release date is Jan. 25.

Republic Group Off For 'Placid' Opening

H. J. Yates, Sr., chairman of the board, and William Saal, his executive assistant, will head a Republic party leaving from New York tonight for Lake Placid, to participate in the premiere of "Lake Placid Serenade" at the Palace Theatre.

Vera Hruba Ralston, star of the musical, and Roy Rogers, who guest-stars in the film, will be crowned "Lake Placid King and Queen of Winter" at the Ice Pageant and Figure-Skating Carnival at the Olympic Arena Saturday evening, and will make personal appearances at the Palace Friday evening and Saturday matinee. At the latter, Miss Ralston will present a perpetual trophy for snow sculpture to the winning grade in a competition for all high-school students. The stars will entertain at the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital and the Lake Placid Club, now an Army redistribution center. Prior to the coronation, the Republic party will be dinner guests of Colonel Frederick B. Dodge, Jr.

Hold Suspect in Four Kincey House Fires

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Dec. 27.—H. F. Kincey, head of the Kincey circuit here, is assisting detectives in the questioning of a youth believed to be responsible for the fire which caused heavy damage to the Broadway Theatre here yesterday and injured six firemen. Police, who have been trailing the boy for over a year, believe him to be responsible for four fires which damaged the Broadway and Charlotte Theatres last year, as well as for the blaze which swept the Carolina last week.

Ravenscroft's New Post

Ralph Ravenscroft, who has been serving as advertising representative for Paramount in the West Coast district, has been appointed West Coast publicity representative for Paramount short subjects and Paramount News, according to an announcement here by Oscar A. Morgan, general sales manager of short subjects.

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A DANGEROUS WOMAN

FOR ANY MAN

TO LOVE . . .

TRIES

"Experiment

Perilous"

A Desperate Adventure...

in love and hate on the dangerline of crime... screened in super suspense and mystery from Margaret Carpenter's sensational best-seller.

Hedy
LAMARR
George
BRENT
Paul
LUKAS

"Experiment Perilous"

with
ALBERT DEKKER • CARL ESMOND • OLIVE BLAKENEY • MARGARET WYCHERLY

Produced by ROBERT FELLOWS • Directed by JACQUES TOURNEUR

Screen Play by Warren Duff

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Growing Use Of Radio Ads To Sell Films

(Continued from page 1)

nue in 1944 from the film companies using this method of film promotion than any other independent station in the country. Gross business from this source for this station alone is understood to be in excess of $100,000, representing an increase of several hundred per cent over 1943.

WNEW'S emphasis, with program director Ted Cott and special events director Jo Ransom collaborating with Herman Bess, vice-president in charge of sales, is upon promotional campaigns for films rather than mere spot announcements. The station contributes "editorial support" and time on public service programs where films lend themselves to such treatment as part of an established policy, in addition to selling time for spot announcements. Special programs also are adapted to film companies' promotional campaigns but in no case, it is said, will the station undertake a campaign of this nature if the film does not lend itself readily to such treatment.

Spot Announcements

In cases where films cannot be promoted by special campaigns planned weeks and sometimes months in advance, the station will merely sell spot announcements.

All companies, except PRC and Monogram, used WNEW during 1944, including Film Classics, United Artists, Paramount and Universal, among others, which conducted special campaigns.

WNEW also plans to pay tribute to the industry's participations in the war effort through two special programs to be produced in January in a "Show Business at War" series. It is understood that the War Activities Committee plans to record these programs for country-wide distribution.

Blizzard Topples Cleveland Grosses

CLEVELAND, Dec. 27.—A heavy snow storm that completely tied up traffic here hit theatre attendance with resultant generally low grosses. "Kismet" at Loew's State came through with a good $22,000, and Loew's Stillman broke even with "Lost in a Harem."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 27 and Dec. 30:

"Wuthering Heights" (Film Classics)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,500).

"The Very Thought of You" (Warner)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $22,100).

"Laura" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $2,700. (Average: $3,200).

"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Carolina Blues" (Col.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Artie Shaw orchestra and vaudeville. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $25,400).

"Kismet" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $19,000).

"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

Crescent Divestiture Must Be Completed by May 16

(Continued from page 1)

censing contracts with affiliated corporations, the theatre holdings of Crescent Amusement Co. are not subject to the divesture since the entire stock is held by Sudekum and members of his family. In 1941, Crescent owned and operated 47 houses in 23 towns outside of Nashville, in Tennessee, Alabama, and Kentucky. Twenty-eight of the 47 were originated by Crescent and the remainder acquired by purchase or lease. Gadsden and Decatur, Ala., and Bowling Green and Hopkinsville, Ky., outside of Nashville, are the largest cities, each with three theatres, in the Crescent circuit. Average capacity of the 47 houses is 750 with only five exceeding 1,000 seating capacity. Crescent was organized with two theatres in Nashville in 1907 by Sudekum.

Cumberland Interest

In 1928 Crescent acquired one half interest in Cumberland Amusement Co., then headed by R. T. Hill. In 1941, this corporation owned and operated 13 theatres in 10 towns, confined to Middle and East Tennessee. Cowan Oldham on June 1, 1939, succeeded R. T. Hill as general manager with Tony Sudekum as president. Largest theatre in the Cumberland circuit is the Sam Davis in Pulaski, which, with a population of 5,314 (1940 census) is the largest town in the circuit. Six theatres of the 13 were originated by the present owners and seven acquired. Under the terms of the injunction Crescent and the defendant principals will have to sell their 50 per cent interest in Cumberland Amusement Co. and Sudekum will have to resign as president. It is predicted that Oldham will purchase the interest that must be sold.

Lyric Amusement Co., Inc., Huntsville, Ala., is owned by Sudekum and the estate of C. A. Crute, with Sudekum serving as general manager since the death of Crute. It will probably be necessary to sell all of this theatre to local capital or close it.

Rockwood Amusements, Inc., was established in 1936 by K. C. Stengel, son-in-law of Sudekum and an employee of Crescent Amusement Co. Rockwood (in 1941) owned and operated 14 theatres in 13 towns in Tennessee and Kentucky. These theatres are all small, averaging under 500 seats, except the State in Central City, Ky. Providence, Ky., with a population of 4,742 (in 1940) is the largest town in this circuit. Sudekum's interest in Rockwood, according to evidence in the suit, consisted of loans to Stengel, who has been president since its organization. Stengel, it appears, is faced with selling the entire circuit to someone else or giving up his connection as vice-president and film buyer for Crescent. He and Sudekum are expected to sell to others.

Cherokee Amusements, Inc., which in 1941 owned and operated 15 theatres in 10 towns in Tennessee and North Carolina, was owned by Parrott and Hendren prior to a sale of one-half interest to Rockwood Amusement Co. in 1936. The Capitol, in Erwin, Tenn., with seating capacity of 696, is the largest in the circuit, with LaFollette, with a population of 4,373, the largest town.

Kentucky Interest

In 1937, Rockwood Amusements, Inc., acquired a half interest in Kentucky Amusement Co., Inc., which operates a single theatre (seating capacity 615), in Elizabethton, Ky. Muscle Shoals Theatres, operating theatres in Florence, Tuscumbia, Sheffield, and Athens, Ala., is owned jointly by Louis Rosenbaum, of Florence, and Mrs. Nettie Sudekum, wife of Tony Sudekum. Rosenbaum is general manager of this circuit. Since Mrs. Sudekum was not included as a Crescent defendant in the injunction and Rosenbaum does not own any interest in any other corporation, Judge Elmer D. Davies will probably be asked for a directive in this instance.

As vice-president of Crescent Amusement Co. and president of Rockwood, with its interests in other corporations, K. C. Stengel negotiated film deals for Crescent, Rockwood, Lyric, and Kentucky. Cowan Oldham bought for Cumberland and Rosenbaum for Muscle Shoals.

It is apparent that the divesture sales will be in terms of circuits, rather than individual theatres (except for Kentucky and Lyric).

N. Y. Critics Vote 'Way' as '44 Best

(Continued from page 1)

Leo McCarey was voted best director for his work in the same film. Tallulah Bankhead received the award as the best female actress for her performance in "Lifeboat."

Special recognition was voted to the United States Army for factual films of the war, with specific commendation for "Memphis Belle" and "Attack."

Running second to Fitzgerald for the best male acting was Bing Crosby in "Going My Way," and Alexander Knox for "Wilson." Ingrid Bergman and Barbara Stanwyck, with six and five votes respectively, were second and third among the best female actresses. Preston Sturges, with four votes, William Wilder with three, and Henry Koster with one, finished in that order among the critics' choice of best directors.

N. Y. Theatres Sell $36,864,922 Bonds

(Continued from page 1)

17, according to Malcolm Kingsberg, New York area chairman for the industry, finds Brooklyn still in the lead, with sales totaling $13,119,572. Manhattan is second with $8,779,062; Bronx, third, with $5,904,720; Queens, fourth, with $5,106,293; and Nassau fifth, with $1,073,160. Westchester has sold $998,224, while Suffolk has a total of $815,023. The New York downstate counties of Sullivan, Ulster, Rockland, Dutchess and Lower Orange have sold $623,793, and Richmond has sold $446,075.

Velez Services in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 27. — Services for Lupe Velez were held here today. Since the arrival of the body from Beverly Hills last night, an estimated 10,000 persons have passed the coffin.

Holiday Quiet In Production; Only 3 Start

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 27.—The holiday season has cut into production at the studios. Only three features were started, and four finished, bringing the production index down to 45, compared to 46 a week ago.

The production scene follows:

Columbia

Shooting: "The Fighting Guardsman," "The Power of the Whistler," (formerly "Until Tomorrow") "Escape in the Fog," "Rockin' in the Rockies," "A Thousand and One Nights."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Her Highness and the Bellboy," "Twice Blessed," "The Hidden Eye," "Weekend at the Waldorf," "Without Love," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Hold High the Torch."

Paramount

Finished: "Hard to Handle" (Pine-Thomas).

Shooting: "Good Intentions," "The Virginian," "The Lost Weekend," "The Love Letters," "The Affairs of Susan," "Duffy's Tavern."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Isle of the Dead," "Johnny Angel," "Follow Your Heart," "The Spanish Main," "Invisible Army," "Along Came Jones" (International).

Republic

Finished: "Sheriff of Cimarron."

Started: "Corpus Christi Bandit," with Allan Lane, Twinkle Watts, Helen Talbot.

Shooting: "Gangs of the Waterfront," "Tell It to a Star," "Utah," "Tugboat Annie's Son" (James S. Burkett).

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "The Bullfighters."

Shooting: "Colonel Effingham's Raid," "A Bell for Adano," "Captain Eddie" (formerly "First, Last and Always").

United Artists

Finished: "Bedside Manner" (Stone).

Shooting: "A Walk in the Sun" (Bronston); "Blood on the Sun" (Cagney); "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan); "Guest Wife" (Skirball-Manning).

Universal

Started: "A Night in Paradise," with Merle Oberon, Turhan Bey, Thomas Gomez; "That's the Spirit" with Jack Oakie, Peggy Ryan, Buster Keaton, Irene Ryan, Johnny Coy, June Vincent.

Shooting: "Easy to Look at," "Blonde Ransom."

Warners

Shooting: "Mildred Pierce," "This Love of Ours," "Hotel Berlin," "The Big Sleep," "San Antonio."

Yorke Signs with Sodeco

The Emerson Yorke Studio here has contracted with the Sodeco Trading Corp. to release short product in the Near East area comprising Iran, Iraq, Syria, Palestine, Egypt and Turkey. The first two releases will be "The Ninth State" and "Highways of New England."

VERA HRUBA RALSTON

in

Lake Placid Serenade

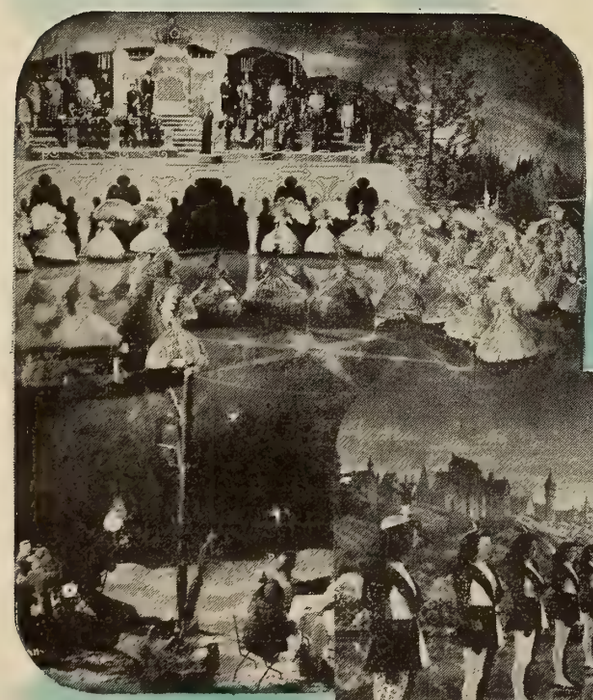
featuring

EUGENE PALLETTE • VERA VAGUE
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
STEPHANIE BACHELOR

with

WALTER CATLETT • LLOYD CORRIGAN • RUTH TERRY
WILLIAM FRAWLEY • JOHN LITEL • LUDWIG STOSSEL
ANDREW TOMBES

and RAY NOBLE AND ORCHESTRA
HARRY OWENS *and* HIS ROYAL HAWAIIANS



Ice Specialties

McGOWAN AND MACK
TWINKLE WATTS
THE MERRY MEISTERS

with GUEST STAR

ROY ROGERS

KING OF
THE COWBOYS

STEVE SEKELY—Director
Original Story by Frederick Kohner
Screen Play by Dick Irving Hyland
and Doris Gilbert

IT'S A REPU

A Miracle of Entertainment!
LIC PICTURE

Dual Holiday Helps Grosses in Toronto

TORONTO, Dec. 27.—"Mrs. Parkington" at Loew's Theatre was holding an edge among first-runs for Christmas Week which included two holidays, Christmas and Boxing Day, the latter being Tuesday. "Rainbow Island" at the Imperial and "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" at Shea's Theatre were running neck and neck for an expected $15,300, while "Maisie Goes to Reno," on a double-bill, promised $10,300 at the Uptown.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 29:

"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000).
"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Mrs. Parkington" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $15,300).
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,400).
"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
"Nothing But Trouble" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN — (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $9,800).

Miss Graham a Booker

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—Irene Graham has been promoted to chief booker for United Artists here, succeeding Oscar Bernstein, who has been moved into a salesman's post. Bernstein fills the vacancy left by Bob Allen, who went to Milwaukee as branch manager.

Leo Seeking South American Friends

"Leo Masters Spanish," a four-minute cartoon of Leo the Lion in Spanish, will be given by M-G-M to its accounts in South America to introduce the Lion to Latin-American audiences. The film is from an idea and script by Si Seadler, M-G-M advertising manager, and exhibits a slightly pompous, but coy lion, whose most impressive attributes are an excellent speaking and singing voice. In one sequence the Lion is shown delivering a fine performance of "Granada," actually sung by Carlos Ramirez. In others he is shown going to school, riding a bucking broncho and receiving a college diploma. The subject matter is very cleverly handled, for the impression of the eager friendly lion is well put over, and at the same time sympathy is aroused for his stupid attempts to read and ride. An entire series is now planned as a result of the success of the first venture.

E. S.

'Canteen' Opening Aids U.S. Hospital

CINCINNATI, Dec. 27.—The Army Air Force Hospital recently established at Fort Thomas near here will get a counterpart of the Hollywood Canteen as a result of a campaign launched by Joseph Alexander, manager of the RKO Albee, in connection with Warners' "Hollywood Canteen," opening here Jan. 4. The public will bring to the Albee enough books to form a library for the canteen.

Ross Federal Service, Inc.

☆

Checking Based on Experience in Nation-Wide Coverage Meeting War-Time Problems

☆

Executive Offices:

18 EAST 48th STREET

New York City

Peak in Admissions Reached Last April

(*Continued from page* 1)

circuit representatives for the recent slump in theatre grosses. Among these factors are the usual Christmas shopping period, the war bond drive and the unfavorable war news.

U. S. Reports Record '44 Income Payments

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Basis for the heavy motion picture attendance which has been maintained throughout the year is seen in a report issued tonight by the Department of Commerce estimating that income payments to individuals during 1944 will total $155,000,000,000, a nine per cent increase over 1943.

The bulk of the increase in individual income occurred in wages and salaries, but interest payments increased sharply owing to the public purchase of war bonds, and Government payments to soldiers' dependents and mustering-out pay, rising from $1,000,000,000, in 1941 to nearly $3,000,000,000 this year, also became an important factor.

Against this record-breaking income there were available only about $97,000,000,000 of goods and services, that being the amount estimated to remain after military demand against the national production of $197,000,000,000.

Department experts saw 1944 as the wartime peak of economic activity, pointing out that gains over 1943 were established early in the year and the trend thereafter was steady.

Personal taxes were substantially larger than in 1943, it was said, but even in the peak year of the war effort they absorbed only 15 per cent of total income payments and, even after the purchase of all available goods and amusement and other services, $36,000,000,000 was left in the form of individual savings.

Snow and Grosses Fall in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Dec. 27. — Christmas Week was dull, as expected. Not one downtown house reached average. "Frenchman's Creek" at the Great Lakes was good at $15,700. There are two feet of snow on the ground here. Travel of all kinds has been kept to a minimum.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 30:

"The Doughgirls" WB)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $17,400).
"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,700. (Average: $16,200).
"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M)
"One Body Too Many" (Para.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,700).
"Lake Placid Serenade" (Rep.)
"Thoroughbreds" (Rep.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $12,200).
"Strange Affair" (Col.)
"Meet Miss Bobby Socks" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $12,400).

Felt Gets Three

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—The Felt interests have purchased the Adelphia and 52nd St. theatres from Affiliated Circuit and have leased the Frolic and will begin operating the latter in January. The Felts, now independent of the Affiliated Circuit, will continue to operate the Casino and the Bluebird.

Thriller Duet Is Standout In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 27.—"The House of Frankenstein," teamed with "The Mummy's Curse" at the Hawaii here was the big noise at local box offices this week, grossing $12,500. The Hawaii was the only theatre doing standout business here over a generally quiet holiday weekend. The weather was fine.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 27:

"Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" (20th-Fox)
"Fighting Lady" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE — (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $10,900).
"Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" (20th-Fox)
"Fighting Lady" (20th-Fox)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average. $14,900).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,700. (Average: $15,000).
"The House of Frankenstein" (Univ.)
"The Mummy's Curse" (Univ.)
HAWAII — (1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $5,700).
"Together Again" (Col.)
"The Missing Juror" (Col.)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,500).
"Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" (20th-Fox)
"Fighting Lady" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $29,300).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES — (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $23,800 (Average: $25,000)
"Together Again" (Col.)
"The Missing Juror" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,300)
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT (HOLLYWOOD)—(1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,900)
"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT (DOWNTOWN) — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $19,500).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $12,500).
"Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" (20th-Fox)
"Fighting Lady" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,700. (Average: $10,500).
"Hollywood Canteen" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (HOLLYWOOD) — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,300. (Average: $16,700).
"Hollywood Canteen" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (DOWNTOWN) — (3,460) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,700. (Average: $18,700).
"Hollywood Canteen" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (WILTERN) — (2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $20,450. (Average: $15,800).

'Kingdom' To Have Premiere Tonight

(*Continued from page* 1)

Smith, Jr., and L. J. Schlaifer, as well as Wilfred J. Eadie, Dan Michalove, Hal Horne, Martin Moskowitz, Larry Kent, Sam Shain, Charles Schlaifer, Roger Ferri and others.

Gregory Peck, who plays the principal role of Father Francis Chisholm, will attend with Mrs. Peck. Other 20th-Fox stars will be on hand.

WANTED
ANIMATION-CAMERAMAN
High Pay—Excellent Opportunity
CINEFFECTS
1600 Broadway New York City
Circle 6-6252

Bad Weather Dents Kansas City Gross

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 27.—Business was slow here the past week. The Midland with "Kismet" scored around $15,000, and the Orpheum with "Tall in the Saddle" and "The Falcon in Hollywood," took around $10,000. Bad weather prevailed.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 26-Dec. 29:

"Lake Placid Serenade" (Rep.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,400).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Doughgirls" (WB)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Hollywood" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).
"The Singing Sheriff" (Univ.) Stage Revue
"Sing, Neighbor, Sing" (Rep.)
TOWER—(2,000) (39c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).
"Lake Placid Serenade" (Rep.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,600).

WLB Will Hear RKO Dispute on Jan. 16

The War Labor Board has set a hearing for Jan. 16 here in the contract dispute between RKO and Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, representing managers and assistant managers in the 40 RKO theatres in the Metropolitan New York area. The dispute was certified to the Board after RKO and the Guild failed to reach an agreement on a contract.

$2 Top New Year's Eve Average on Broadway

(*Continued from page* 1)

pation. A five-minute break at midnight is scheduled.

Radio City Music Hall will run to 2:45 a.m. Regular price scales for Sundays will prevail, with a $1.25 opening and a $1.50 top at midnight. No special midnight attraction is planned. The Capitol will run until 3 a.m. It will start at $1.10 and have a $2.20 top. Special events are planned at the stroke of midnight. All glass will be boarded and extra ushers and police will be on hand. The Strand will run until 5:30 a.m. Admission prices will also be at $2.20 top. The Hollywood will run until 4:15 a.m. Extra ushers and police have been requested and the top price will be $2.00.

The Rialto will run from noon Sunday to 7 a.m., Monday, at a top of $1.20. The National Screen Service trailer and a community sing will be put on the screen at midnight. The front of the theatre will be boarded up. The Victoria also will run into Monday morning with a $1.50 top, and also will use the NSS trailer. The Globe and Gotham will remain open all night and the Republic until 5 a.m. Price scales will range from an opening of 80 cents to a high of $1.50, with the NSS trailer at midnight. Extra police and extra ushers have been requested.

The Paramount will run until 6 a.m. An organ solo and a community sing will feature the midnight presentation. Price scale will range from $1.20 to $2.20 at midnight. Box office windows will be boarded and extra help placed on duty. The Astor will close at 4:30 a.m. Its top price will be $1.40. It will use the NSS trailer, board up most of the theatre front and it hopes to get extra ushers. The Rivoli will close its doors at 4:45 a.m. Price scale will range from $1.50 opening to $1.70 top and special attractions will be offered at midnight. Front will not be boarded, but extra ushers will be hired. The Palace will run to 3 a.m. and its price scale will be the regular Sunday one of $1.50 top from 5 p.m. through the midnight show. The theatre front will not be boarded up but extra help will be added. The Criterion will remain open until 6 a.m., at a scale of $1 at noon to $1.50 for the midnight performance. The NSS trailer will be shown at midnight and audience participation will be invited. All horns must be checked by celebrants on the outside. No extra ushers or extra protection for the box office are planned.

New Color Process

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 27.—Thomascolor, a new process of color photography, has been placed on the market, invented by Richard Thomas.

Oppose Amusement Tax

NAPA, Cal., Dec. 27.—Theatre interests and organized labor are opposing an ordinance providing a two-cent tax on amusements here.

Some Run, Clearance Complaints Filed

A some run case has been filed in the Seattle tribunal and a clearance complaint in the New York tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Frank Higgins, operating the Lake City theatre, Lake City, Wash., filing a some run complaint against 20th-Fox, Warners and Loew's, charges that these companies have refused to license the Lake City on any run and asks that they be directed to offer pictures to the house. Interested parties are National Theatres Corp., Hamrich-Evergreen and Evergreen Theatre Corp.

Calderone-Mineola Theatre Corp., operating the Mineola, Mineola, L. I., has filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies. Complainant claims that clearance between Mineola and Floral Park is unreasonable and asks its elimination.

Radio Output Up 20% In '44: Ballantyne

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—John Ballantyne, president of Philco Corp., said today the radio industry increased its total production over 1943 by 20 per cent in terms of dollars during 1944. "It is estimated," he added, "that the pent-up demand for radio receivers at the present time amounts to between 20,000,000 and 25,000,000 units, as compared with the industry's all-time high production of 13,100,000 sets in 1941."

A Xmas Gift to Mr. Exhibitor

"THUNDER ROCK"

"The No. 1 Picture of the Year!"

Archer Winsten,
New York Post

"One of the Ten Best of the Year."

National Board of Review of Motion Pictures

ANOTHER "ENGLISH FILMS, INC." HIT!

"Dear Diary: I close the pages of 1944 with my heart overflowing with gratitude to my customers, the showmen of America. They have made it possible for our Anniversary Year to be not only a commercial success but a sincere expression of friendship. To them and to all of good-will in our industry thanks and God's blessings."

Keep Selling Bonds

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 124 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1944 TEN CENTS

Law and Sales Heads Talk Conciliation

Trade Grievance Plan of SCTOA Is Discussed

Albert J. Law, executive secretary and general counsel of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, began a series of conferences yesterday in New York with individual major company sales executives and plans to meet with every top distribution official here on the SCTOA's trade grievance conciliation plan. He will remain here over the New Year's holiday to complete the meetings.

The sessions held yesterday were understood to have been for the purpose of describing and explaining the plan to the sales executives, who were not identified specifically. No reactions to the proposal are likely to be forthcoming until after sales execu-

(*Continued on page 2*)

PRC Has Backlog Of 14: McCarthy

"The industry as a whole has passed a business peak and is on a more stable level than ever before," Leo J. McCarthy, PRC general sales manager, said yesterday. "More thought is being given now to intelligent selling," he said. McCarthy recently returned from a month's tour of the company's exchanges. "I found the industry in the field more receptive to elimination of waste in distribution and exhibition," he said. "Unitized selling is the most intelligent manner

Leo J. McCarthy

(*Continued on page 7*)

Equipment Producers May Exhibit in Soviet

American manufacturers of motion picture equipment may be included in the list of those companies which are being invited to display their goods at a projected industrial exhibition in Moscow on a permanent basis, it was learned here yesterday. Letters of invitation to participate

(*Continued on page 3*)

Henderson Named 20th Treasurer; Jenkins to Board

Donald A. Henderson of Lehman Bros. was elected director and treasurer of 20th Century-Fox at a meeting of the board of directors here yesterday, to fill the vacancy created by the death of the late Sydney Towell, vice-president and treasurer.

Felix H. Jenkins, secretary of the company, was elected a director to fill the other vacancy on the board.

Henderson, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, joined the buying department of Halsey, Stuart and Co. in New York, where he remained until 1936. That year he became associated with Lehman Bros. in the industrial department and has been active in 20th-Fox's financial affairs since.

Projectionists Raise New Year's Eve Rate

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—The Projectionists' Union, Local 110, American Federation of Labor, has raised its scales for New Year's Eve performances here, starting at 5:00 p.m., in all theatres where special holiday

(*Continued on page 7*)

Confirm Ending of British Censorship

Washington, Dec. 28.—While the Office of Censorship will issue no formal announcement of the discontinuance of film licenses for Britain, its New York and Hollywood offices have been notified of the move, effective Jan. 1. As indicated in *Motion Picture Daily* yesterday, no further relaxation of censorship restrictions is planned for the immediate future. The export and import restrictions to and from other countries, exercised by the Los Angeles Board of Review, will continue in effect.

Lauds Exhibitors On 6th Drive Work

Praise for the cooperation of exhibitors, distributors, the trade press, theatre managers and other industry personnel, was expressed yesterday by Harry Brandt, as he wound up his duties as national chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan drive. Brandt, who will return to his own offices today, said, "At the beginning

(*Continued on page 7*)

U.S. October Admission Tax Collections Off $1,000,000

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Reflecting normal seasonal trends, Federal admission tax collections in November were slightly below those of the preceding month, totaling $30,183,455 against $31,097,641, it was reported yesterday by the Internal Revenue Bureau. Collections in November, 1943, were $16,388,863.

The Bureau report indicated that business in October, on which the November collections were based, held up generally throughout the country, most of the decline from the previous month being concentrated in the Third New York (Broadway) District, where collections dropped from $4,873,946 to $4,015,458.

The New York receipts included $3,505,675 from box office admissions, against $4,241,512 in the preceding month; $28,690 from tickets sold by brokers, against $21,371; $158 from tickets sold by proprietors in excess of the established price, against $1,038; nothing from permanent use or lease of boxes and seats, against $282, and $480,937 from admissions to roof gardens and cabarets, against $609,742.

The national collections brought the total Government revenue for the first 11 months of 1944 to $269,332,934, compared with $152,681,903 for the corresponding period in 1943, and indicated that the receipts for the year will just about hit $300,000,000.

For 1945

A Happier New Year

Crosby Voted '44 Top Money Making Star

Cooper, 2nd; Hope, 3rd In Theatre Balloting

Bing Crosby was voted the screen's top money-making star of 1944 in the *Motion Picture Herald-Fame* annual poll of exhibitors to determine the names and rankings of the box office champions.

Bing Crosby

Second place in the combined vote of circuits and independent theatre owners went to Gary Cooper; third to Bob Hope; fourth to Betty Grable; fifth to Spencer Tracy; sixth to Greer Garson; seventh to Humphrey Bogart; eighth to Abbott and Costello; ninth to Cary Grant, and 10th to Bette Davis.

Presumably the healthy grosses which theatres derived from Paramount's "Going My Way" influenced

(*Continued on page 3*)

Hellman, 20th-Fox In Production Talk

Marcel Hellman, independent British producer, has initiated conversations with 20th-Fox for a production deal on a number of films to be made in England, it was learned here yesterday.

Hellman has left for England where, it is understood, he will continue talks begun here with Murray Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, with Francis L. Harley, the company's British managing director. Details as to the number of films involved and what studio facilities can be used will be thrashed out with Harley.

No Paper Monday

There will be no issue of *Motion Picture Daily* on Monday, New Year's Day and a legal holiday.

Personal Mention

Y. FRANK FREEMAN, Paramount vice-president in charge of studio operations, will leave Hollywood for New York today on the Superchief.

•

MAJOR SAMUEL ROSEN, treasurer of Rosen Film Delivery Service, Inc., New Haven, has arrived home on leave from the China-Burma-India war theatre. From New Haven he will go to Washington on special assignment.

•

HERBERT S. PICKMAN, field representative for Warner Bros. in the Southeast territory, and ART MOGER, of the New England territory, are in New York for conferences with MORT BLUMENSTOCK.

•

EDWARD M. SAUNDERS, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, and MAX WEINBERG of the short subject department, will return to New York Tuesday from vacations.

•

LYNN FARNOL will leave New York for the Coast on Tuesday to assume his new post there as head of Samuel Goldwyn publicity.

•

BILL SHARTIN, United Artists' branch manager at New Haven, has been transferred to Pittsburgh. No successor has been named yet.

•

PHILLIP GRAVITZ, head booker at M-G-M's New Haven exchange, is vacationing at Lake Placid, N. Y.

•

REGINALD ARMOUR has arrived in England for an Office of War Information overseas film bureau mission.

•

FRANCIS HARMON, vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee, returned from Washington yesterday.

•

HARRY SHUMOW, branch manager for M-G-M in Milwaukee, is ill at his home with pneumonia.

•

LEROY BICKEL, M-G-M's Dallas manager, is a patient at Medical Arts Hospital, Dallas.

•

JOSEPH ROBERTS of the Vanguard office returned to New York from Detroit yesterday.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M circuit sales manager, observes his 50th birthday today.

•

JOEL LEVY, out-of-town Loew booker, will leave New York today for New England.

DSM to Gen. Curtis Of Eastman Kodak

ROCHESTER, Dec. 28.—Brigadier General Edward Peck Curtis, on leave of absence from his post of motion picture film sales manager for Eastman Kodak, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. General Curtis, World War I ace, is now serving in the European theatre of operations.

Notables Attend 'Kingdom' Premiere

"Keys of the Kingdom" was given an invitational premiere by 20th Century-Fox last night at the Rivoli Theatre here. In the audience were: Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox; Mayor and Mrs. F. H. LaGuardia, Dr. A. J. Cronin, author of the book on which the film is based; Tom Connors, 20th-Fox vice-president, who was host to industry executives who attended; Gregory Peck and Mrs. Peck, Jane Ball and producer-director Otto Preminger.

Notables from society, the publishing field and high-ranking clergymen also were present. The film's public world premiere starts today.

Sales Heads Discuss Conciliation Plan

(Continued from page 1)

tives are given an opportunity for further study.

Distributor executives told MOTION PICTURE DAILY last week they were interested in any formula for conciliating trade practice grievances which would result in better industry relations. At the same time they said they would be willing to meet with Law and obtain from him a description of the SCTOA conciliation plan.

It is Law's hope to be able to convince sales heads here of the merits of his plan, and to have it installed nationally, rather than just exclusively in Southern California. The plan, previously reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, provides a three point formula for settling exhibitor-distributor disputes without resorting to or supplanting arbitration board procedure. Since the Department of Justice heads, contacted this week and last by Law, have indicated a favorable attitude, if the companies should likewise be interested, it might be incorporated in the consent decree, and aid in the simplification of the present arbitration system, without in any way disturbing that system, it is pointed out.

FP-C Buys Interest In Spencer Circuit

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—Famous Players-Canadian Corp. has announced that a substantial interest has been acquired in the circuit of F. G. Spencer Co., Ltd., St. John, N. B., comprising 20 theatres operating in 14 cities and towns of the Maritime Provinces, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

According to the announcement, F. G. Spencer, who created the circuit 30 years ago, will continue to direct the theatres and the two companies will jointly engage in a program of theatre construction on the Atlantic Coast in the post-war period.

'Perilous' Opens Tonight

RKO's "Experiment Perilous" will have its Broadway premiere tonight at the RKO Palace. The film stars Hedy Lamarr, George Brent and Paul Lukas.

Sarnoff Cites New Video Transmitter

A 300 megacycle television transmitter, claimed to be the first of its kind developed to use five kilowatts of power for television broadcasting was one of a number of outstanding developments in the RCA Laboratories during 1944, Brigadier General David Sarnoff, on military leave as president of RCA, pointed out yesterday in a year-end statement reviewing the progress of radio during the past year.

The full use of the new transmitter, General Sarnoff explained in his statement, must await the end of the war. He said that engineers are studying the transmitter's performance and perfecting it for the future, with field tests scheduled early in 1945 in the New York area. The development of this new transmitter came about primarily through the creation of a special electronic tube and associated circuit, General Sarnoff indicated.

MGM Field Auditors Here for Meeting

Five Commando girls and four field auditors of M-G-M arrived in New York yesterday for the annual auditors meeting at the Astor Hotel, Jan. 2. Meetings will be conducted by Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer, and Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations, and approximately 35 are expected to attend from the home and field offices.

Those who arrived yesterday were Anna L. Berger, Dorothy Donaldson, Roberta Elston, Jeanne Harris and Henrietta Klein, among the Commando girls, and Willard Gillilan, John J. Ash, Carl Gentzel and Arthur Sterling of the field auditors.

Kallets Establish Radio Corporation

ALBANY, Dec. 28.—Copper City Broadcasting Corp., with offices in Oneida, has been incorporated here with three Kallet Theatres officials as directors: Myron J. Kallet, Oneida, president of the circuit; Joseph J. Kallet, manager of two houses in Rome, and William T. MacNeilly, city manager in Utica.

A few months ago, Kallet brothers incorporated a radio broadcasting business for Oneida.

W. B. House Destroyed

MANSFIELD, O., Dec. 28.—Warner's Majestic Theatre here, closed since June, 1943, collapsed yesterday. House, which seated 950, is believed to have given way under the weight of ice and snow on its roof. All equipment was either destroyed or lost and the damage is estimated at $75,000.

Agencies Lose Hits

License Commissioner Paul Moss yesterday removed the sale of theatre tickets to hit stage shows here from the ticket brokers and placed them exclusively in the hands of theatre box offices.

NEW YORK THEATRES

"ELABORATE AND LIVELY." —World-Telegram
VERA HRUBA RALSTON
Lake Placid Serenade
featuring
Eugene Palette, Robert Livingston, RAY NOBLE and his Orchestra
Vera Vague, Stephanie Bachelor, HARRY OWENS and his Royal Hawaiians
and ROY ROGERS (as Guest Star)
REPUBLIC THEATRE
B'way, Bet. 51st & 52nd Sts.
A Republic Picture

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE
M-G-M's
"NATIONAL VELVET"
MICKEY ROONEY
DONALD CRISP - ELIZABETH TAYLOR
JACKIE JENKINS - REGINALD OWEN
and THE MUSIC HALL'S SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

STATE
ON SCREEN Greer GARSON Walter PIDGEON in M-G-M's 'MRS. PARKINGTON'
IN PERSON WINGY MANONE and ORCH Extra! Radio's Henry Aldrich Dickie JONES

BING CROSBY BETTY HUTTON SONNY TUFTS
In Person Woody HERMAN and His Orchestra ALL-STAR REVUE
"Here Come the Waves"
PARAMOUNT Times Square

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
HEDY LAMARR
GEORGE BRENT - PAUL LUKAS
"Experiment Perilous"
An RKO Picture

20TH CENTURY-FOX PRESENTS
A. J. Cronin's
"THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM"
Continuous Performances
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

MOSS HART'S
WINGED VICTORY
A 20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
Produced by DARRYL F. ZANUCK
Directed by GEORGE CUKOR
In Person NICHOLAS BROTHERS
Extra JACK DURANT
ROXY 7th AVE. & 50th ST.

Dan Sears, 41, Dead

BLANCHESTER, O., Dec. 28.—Dan Sears, 41, former manager of the Clinton Theatre, died today of a self-inflicted bullet wound.

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Philadelphia On Box-Office Spree; $28,500 to 'Creek'

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—This holiday week promises to be a big one for downtown houses, despite many competitive factors. Adding to the four legitimate theatres, all with major attractions, is the engagement this week of the "Ice Follies" at the Arena. Nonetheless, the week got off to a good start, with the biggest business attracted by "Frenchman's Creek," at the Boyd, pointing to $28,500, in addition to $4,500 for a Sunday dual showing at the Earle. Also getting off to a big start is "Meet Me in St, Louis," which is expected to reach over the house par with $22,300.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 27-29:

"Meet Me in St. Louis" (M-G-M)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,300. (Average: $14,600).
"The Doughgirls" (WB)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $4,000).
"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $18,000).
"Strange Affair" (Col.) 6 days
"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (40c-50c-85c-95c) 6 days, including Vaughn Monroe's orchestra, Jan Murray, Jane Slater, The Norton Sisters and Mary Lee, Rosemary Calvin, Bobby Rickey, Johnny Bond, Andy Ragni and Johnny Fitzpatrick. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $27,600).
"Lost in a Harem" (MGM)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $20,500).
"Laura" (20th-Fox)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,600).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800).
"None But the Lonely Heart" (RKO)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $22,500).
"Bowery to Broadway" (Univ.)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Tall in the Saddle" (RKO)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $9,400).

Equipment Producers May Exhibit in Soviet

(*Continued from page* 1)

have already been sent to a number of manufacturers. A spokesman for Trading Corp. declared that it was possible that film equipment manufacturers may be included at the exposition.

A special hall for showings of technical films will be provided, it is understood, and the display will give American manufacturers a chance to bring their products to the attention of Russian buyers. Also under consideration, it is understood, is a plan advanced by Averill Harriman, U. S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, which calls for reciprocal exhibition of the films of Russia and the U. S. in both countries to further cultural relations between the two peoples.

WANTED
ANIMATION-CAMERAMAN
High Pay—Excellent Opportunity
CINEFFECTS
1600 Broadway New York City
Circle 6-6252

Crosby Voted Top Money Making Star of 1944

(*Continued from page* 1)

the victory for Crosby, inasmuch as the picture was the only new release in which he appeared in the period covered by the poll.

To Crosby goes the distinction of being the first leading man to take the Number One position in the poll. Number One position in the 12 previous annual pollings was held three times by character players, seven times by children, once by a pair of comedians and once by a leading woman. For the record, Marie Dressler topped the list in 1932 and 1933, Will Rogers in 1934, Shirley Temple in 1935, 1936, 1937 and 1938, Mickey Rooney in 1939, 1940, and 1941, Abbott and Costello in 1942, and Betty Grable in 1943.

Stability of Values

Apart from the precedent established by voting of a leading man to the position of supremacy among the Top Ten, the 1944 poll results indicate a stability of stellar values during a year of long runs, crowded theatres and backlogged attractions. All but one of the Money-Making Stars of 1944 have been present in earlier Top Ten listings, many of them repeatedly.

Crosby is no stranger to the Top Ten. It is his fifth appearance in annual listings. He was voted seventh in the 1934 balloting, based as all Money-Making Star polls are based, on the amount of money drawn into theatres by films during the entertainment year, this year ending October 1, 1944. He was fourth in the 1937 poll, seventh in the 1940 poll, and fourth in the 1943 poll.

Gary Cooper, voted into second place this year, was fifth last year, placing among the Top Ten for the sixth time. He was on the screen during the period covered by the poll this year in Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and "The Story of Dr. Wassell" and International's "Casanova Brown," the last-named going into release a bit late in the year to figure largely in the 1944 balloting, however. As is typical of poll placements, although the Crosby showing of 1944 is an exceptional instance, the number of pictures in distribution featuring the personality during the period covered by the poll, influenced Cooper's ascent.

One Hope Film

Bob Hope's recession from second place last year to third place in the 1944 listing reflects the converse of the Cooper advancement. The comedian was to be seen in but one new picture, "Let's Face It," during the season. Betty Grable, fourth ranking box office personality in the 1944 poll, was the sensation of the 1943 balloting, taking first position on her second appearance in the list. She was seen in only two films during the 1944 season as against three in the 1943 period.

Spencer Tracy, like Cooper, appears for the sixth time in the Top Ten this year. Greer Garson's retention of sixth place, which she occupied last year on her second appearance in the list, is an impressive validation of her popularity in view of the fact that she, like this year's leader, had only one new picture in circulation during the period of the poll, "Madame Curie." Humphrey Bogart, retaining seventh place, which he earned last year on his first inclusion among the leaders, was to be seen in "Passage to Marseille" and briefly in "Thank Your Lucky Stars" during the season represented. Abbott and Costello are in eighth place this year on the strength of only one new picture circulated during the poll period, "In Society." They were out in five during the 1942 period when they were voted into the top position. No other comedy team in the poll history has held Top Ten rating for three consecutive years.

Cary Grant in ninth place this year is the single first-timer in the 1944 list of Money-Making Stars. He was in three films during the period covered, "Destination Tokyo," "Once Upon a Time" and "Arsenic and Old Lace." Bette Davis returns to the Top Ten in the 1944 listing. She held ninth place in 1940 and eighth in 1941.

War Removes Gable

The story of the 1944 balloting would not be complete without a notation of the fact that the name of Clark Gable is absent from the Top Ten for the first time since the establishment of the poll in 1932. No other star has approached the Gable record for sustained consistency in popularity with the millions who pay their way into theatres. It took the world's greatest war two years to take the world's greatest entertainment personality out of the Top Ten.

Circuits and independents were agreed on the first five leaders in this year's poll. The circuits voted Greer Garson, sixth; Humphrey Bogart, seventh; Cary Grant, eighth; Abbott and Costello, ninth, and Bette Davis, tenth. The independents voted Abbott and Costello, sixth; Greer Garson, seventh; Humphrey Bogart, eighth; Wallace Beery, ninth, and Cary Grant, 10th.

The next fifteen ranking box office names in the combined vote were: Wallace Beery, Dorothy Lamour, Walter Pidgeon, Judy Garland, Alice Faye and Red Skelton, tied for 15th place; Ginger Rogers, Mickey Rooney; Claudette Colbert; Irene Dunne, Margaret O'Brien and James Cagney, tied for 20th place; Barry Fitzgerald, Roy Rogers, Betty Hutton, Fred MacMurray and Ingrid Bergman, tied for 24th place, and Deanna Durbin, 25th.

King of the Cowboys

The Top Ten Western Stars in the combined vote of the circuits and independents were Roy Rogers, William Boyd, Smiley Burnette, George "Gabby" Hayes, Bill Elliott, Johnny Mack Brown, Don "Red" Barry, Charles Starrett, Russell Hayden and Tex Ritter. Honorable mention went to the next five, who were Fuzzy Knight, Bob Steele, Andy Clyde, Ken Maynard and Buster Crabbe. Rogers was voted first last year after a first inclusion among the leaders in 1939.

Purchase Extra Bonds

Every employe in each of M-G-M's 32 exchanges purchased an extra War Bond in the Sixth War Loan drive, the home office announced.

Cold Retards Recovery of Loop Grosses

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—The seasonally dull pre-Christmas weekend and post-holiday zero weather gave the Loop another poor box office week. Christmas Day business was good, but not exceptional. A new leader in town is "Can't Help Singing" which opened big at the Palace Christmas Day and should roll up a healthy total.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 28:

"The Very Thought of You" (WB)
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-85c-95c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,400).
"And Now Tomorrow" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c). On stage: Johnny Long and band. Gross: $48,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Abroad With Two Yanks" (UA) 2nd Loop run
DOWNTOWN—(1,800) (44c-55c-85c-95c). On stage: Benny Carter and band. Gross: $15,000.
"The Conspirators" (WB)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd Loop week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,100).
"Ball of Fire" (Reissue)
"The Little Foxes" (Reissue) 3 days
"The Woman in the Window" (RKO)
"My Gal Loves Music" (Univ.) 4 days, 3rd Loop week
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,100).
"Carolina Blues" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c). On stage: Harry Cool and Revue. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $24,000).
"The Woman in the Window" (RKO)
"My Gal Loves Music" (Univ.) 3 days, 3rd Loop week
"Can't Help Singing" (Univ.)
"Enter Arsene Lupin" (Univ.) 4 days
PALACE—(2,500) (35c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" (20th-Fox)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $25,000).
"The Princess and the Pirate" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 5th week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $10,000).

Theatres Prosperous Even in Arabia

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 28.—"The Arab loves motion pictures for entertainment," said Hafidh Al-Kadi, RCA Victor distributor in Iraq when he recently visited RCA Victor headquarters here, "and theatre business is flourishing in Arabian cities. Ancient Bagdad alone maintains a dozen fine theatres and at present there are three or four more under construction," he said. Hafidh added that his country "obtains the best American and English films that we can get," but said that Arabian language films, produced in Cairo studios, are also popular.

The film man, who was a member of the Iraq delegation at the International Business Conference at Rye, N. Y., plans to visit Hollywood in the near future.

Disney Film on Video

"Defense Against Invasion," a second film produced by Walt Disney for the office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, will be televised on the RCA-Victor "The World in Your Home" television program over NBC's station WNBT today. "Winged Scourge" was televised last Friday.

Box-Office Records Beware!

TAKE HEED FROM

CHICAGO . . . BUFFALO . . . LOS ANGELES
CINCINNATI...SAN FRANCISCO...DAYTON
KANSAS CITY . . . SALT LAKE CITY
ATLANTA . . . NEW ORLEANS . . . OMAHA
TAMPA . . . READING . . . HARRISBURG
CHARLESTON...ROCHESTER...SYRACUSE
SIOUX CITY

BONDS BUY BOMBS! SOCK 'EM WITH THE 6th!

SAMUEL GOLDWYN

presents

BOB HOPE

in

The Princess and the Pirate

in TECHNICOLOR

with

VIRGINIA MAYO

WALTER SLEZAK • WALTER BRENNAN • VICTOR McLAGLEN

Directed by David Butler • Screen Play by Don Hartman, Melville Shavelson and Everett Freeman • Released through RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

Associate Producer • Don Hartman

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Dec. 2	SHE'S A SWEETHEART Jane Darwell Jane Frazee Larry Parks D—69 mins. (6032) (Rev. 12/12/44)	(Ninth Block) THE THIN MAN GOES HOME William Powell Myrna Loy C—100 mins. (Rev. 11/24/44)	CRAZY KNIGHTS Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom C (421)	(Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins. (4432) (Rev. 8/23/44)	ROGUES GALLERY Frank Jenks Robin Raymond C—60 mins.	RED RIVER VALLEY (Reissue) Gene Autry O—57 mins. (3308) (Rev. 12/15/41)	(Special Release) THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW (International) E. G. Robinson Joan Bennett Raymond Massey D—99 mins. (582) (Rev. 10/10/44)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins. (530) (Rev. 8/2/44)	GUEST IN THE HOUSE Anne Baxter Ralph Bellamy D—122 mins. (Rev.12/4/44)	MURDER IN The BLUE ROOM Grace McDonald Donald Cook John Litel D—61 mins. (9034) (Rev. 11/16/44)	THE DOUGHGIRLS Ann Sheridan Jane Wyman Jack Carson C—102 mins. (407) (Rev. 9/30/44)
Dec. 9	TAHITI NIGHTS Dave O'Brien Jinx Falkenburg C		SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Peter Cookson D—68 mins. (416) (Rev. 10/4/44)	(Second Block) FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Color) Joan Fontaine Arturo de Cordova D—113 mins. (4408) (Rev. 9/20/44)	OATH OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—57 mins. THE TOWN WENT WILD Freddie Bartholomew Jimmy Lydon D—80 mins. (Rev.11/13/44)		(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN (International) Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (Rev. 8/1/44)			HI BEAUTIFUL Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Jr. C—64 mins. (9031) (Rev. 11/24/44)	
Dec. 16	TOGETHER AGAIN C—100 mins. (6003) (Rev. 11/3/44) SADDLE LEATHER LAW O—55 mins. (6203)	MAIN STREET AFTER DARK Edward Arnold Selena Royle D—57 mins. (Rev. 11/28/44)	ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—76 mins. (403) (Rev. 10/16/44)	MINISTRY OF FEAR Ray Milland Marjorie Reynolds D—84 mins. (4410) (Rev. 10/18/44)		THOROUGH-BREDS Tom Neal Adele Mara D—55 mins. (408)	(First Block) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505) (Rev. 9/21/44)			MY GAL LOVES MUSIC Grace McDonald Bob Crosby M—63 mins. (9037) (Rev. 12/5/44) THE OLD TEXAS TRAIL Rod Cameron O—60 mins. (9082)	
Dec. 23	DANCING IN MANHATTAN Fred Brady Jeff Donnell C—60 mins. (6038) (Rev. 12/21/44)	MUSIC FOR MILLIONS Margaret O'Brien Jose Iturbi M—118 mins. (Rev. 12/13/44)	BOWERY CHAMPS East Side Kids D—62 mins. (409) (Rev. 11/16/44)	THE MAN IN HALF-MOON STREET Nils Asther Helen Walker D—92 mins. (4407) (Rev. 10/17/44)	CASTLE OF CRIMES (British) Keneth Kent Diana Churchill Belle Chrystall D—60 mins. (Rev. 12/22/44)	THE BIG BONANZA Richard Arlen D—69 mins. (407) SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS 55 mins.—O (3316)	NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501) (Rev. 10/2/44) GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins (504) (Rev. 9/25/44)		TOMORROW THE WORLD Fredric March Betty Field D—86 mins. (Rev. 12/18/44)	DESTINY Gloria Jean Alan Curtis Grace McDonald D—65 mins. (Rev. 12/7/44)	
Dec. 30	LET'S GO STEADY Pat Parrish Jackie Moran June Preisser C	BLONDE FEVER Philip Dorn Mary Astor C—69 mins. (Rev. 11/28/44)	NAVAJO TRAILS Johnny Mack Brown O—(454)	AND NOW TOMORROW Loretta Young Alan Ladd D—85 mins. (4406) (Rev. 10/17/44)	THE WHISPERING SKULL (Texas Rangers) O—55 mins.		TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne O—87 mins. (503) (Rev. 9/26/44) THE MASTER RACE George Coulouris D—96 mins. (502) (Rev. 8/21/44)	(Fifth Block) (Dec. Release) WINGED VICTORY Edmond O'Brien Jeanne Crain D—130 min. (512) (Rev. 11/22/44)	I'LL BE SEEING YOU Ginger Rogers Joseph Cotten D—85 mins. (Rev. 12/19/44)	CAN'T HELP SINGING (Color) Deanna Durbin Robert Paige Akim Tamiroff M—88 mins. (Rev. 12/14/44)	
Jan. 6	YOUTH ON TRIAL Cora Sue Collins David Reed Eric Sinclair D	BETWEEN TWO WOMEN Van Johnson Lionel Barrymore D—82 mins. (Rev. 12/21/44)	ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Rick Vallin D—67 mins. (414) (Rev.12/5/44)	ONE BODY TOO MANY Jack Haley Jean Parker C—76 mins. (4409) (Rev. 10/18/44)			(Second Block) EXPERIMENT PERILOUS Hedy Lamarr George Brent D—91 mins. (510) (Rev. 12/6/44) MURDER, MY SWEET Anne Shirley Dick Powell D—95 mins. (508) (Rev. 12/6/44)	SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER Anne Baxter John Hodiak D—86 mins. (513) (Rev. 12/6/44)		NIGHT CLUB GIRL Vivian Austin Edward Norris M—60 mins. (9035) (Rev. 12/8/44)	HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN All-Star Cast M—123 mins. (409) (Rev. 12/5/44)
Jan. 13	EADIE WAS A LADY Joe Besser Hal McIntyre and Orchestra C	NOTHING BUT TROUBLE Laurel and Hardy C—69 mins. (Rev. 12/5/44)	ADVENTURES Of KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker D—63 mins. (420) (Rev. 12/8/44)	(Third Block) HERE COME THE WAVES Bing Crosby Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts M—97 mins. (4411) (Rev. 12/18/44)	FOG ISLAND Lionel Atwill George Zucco D HOLLYWOOD AND VINE James Ellison Wanda McKay D		GIRL RUSH C—65 mins (506) (Rev. 10/25/44) NEVADA O—62 mins. (509) (Rev. 12/11/44) THE FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD D—67 mins. (507) (Rev. 12/5/44)		MR. EMMANUEL (British) Felix Aylmer Greta Gynt D—100 mins.	SHE GETS HER MAN Joan Davis William Gargan Leon Errol C	
Jan. 20	I LOVE A MYSTERY Jim Bannon Barton Yarborough Nina Foch D	THIS MAN'S NAVY Wallace Beery James Gleason D	JADE MASK Sidney Toler D—66 mins. (417)	DANGEROUS PASSAGE Robert Lowery Phyllis Brooks D—62 mins. (4412) (Rev. 12/21/44)	HIS BROTHER'S GHOST Buster Crabbe O MARKED FOR MURDER Dave O'Brien O		(Special) THE PRINCESS AND THE PIRATE (Goldwyn) (Color) Bob Hope Virginia Mayo C—94 mins. (551) (Rev. 10/11/44)	(Jan. Release) KEYS OF THE KINGDOM Gregory Peck Thomas Mitchell D—137 mins. (514) (Rev. 12/13/44)		UNDER WESTERN SKIES Martha O'Driscoll Noah Beery, Jr. Leo Carillo O—57 mins. (9039)	TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—100 mins. (410) (Rev. 10/11/44)
Jan. 27	SAGEBRUSH HEROES Charles Starrett O SING ME A SONG OF TEXAS Rosemary Lane Hal McIntyre Orch. M	(Special Release) 30 SECONDS OVER TOKYO Spencer Tracy Van Johnson D—138 mins. (Rev. 11/14/44)	THEY SHALL HAVE FAITH Gale Storm C. Aubrey Smith D—83 mins. (Rev. 12/13/44)	FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS (Color) Ingrid Bergman Gary Cooper D—158 mins. (4413) (Rev. 7/15/43)			(Special Release) BELLE OF THE YUKON (International) (Color) Gypsy Rose Lee Randolph Scott Bob Burns C—84 mins. (583) (Rev. 11/29/44)	THE FIGHTING LADY (Color) (documentary) 61 mins. (515) (Rev. 12/21/44)		THE SUSPECT Charles Laughton Ella Raines D—85 mins. (Rev. 12/22/44)	
Feb. 3		(Special Release) MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS (Color) Judy Garland Margaret O'Brien M—113 mins. (Rev. 11/1/44)	CISCO KID RETURNS Duncan Renaldo O	PRACTICALLY YOURS Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray C—90 mins. (4414) (Rev. 12/15/44)				THE WAY AHEAD (British) David Niven Raymond Huntley D—115 mins. (511)		HERE COME THE CO-EDS Abbott and Costello Phil Spitalny and Orch. C	
Feb. 10			GUN SMOKE Johnny Mack Brown O	DOUBLE EXPOSURE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—63 mins. (4415) (Rev. 12/21/44)						HER LUCKY NIGHT Andrews Sisters Martha O'Driscoll M	

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama.

'Tokyo' Big in Cin. Despite Holiday

CINCINNATI, Dec. 28.—Although some of the local current box office figures are ordinary, business as a whole was impressive the past week, considering the holiday and its attendant diversions. "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" is zooming into the upper strata with a double average of $13,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 25-29:

"Frenchman's Creek" (Para.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500).

"The Woman in the Window" (RKO)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, following initial week at the Albee and moveover week at the Grand. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $10,000).

"Murder in the Blue Room" (Univ.)
"Cyclone Prairie Rangers" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $2,300. (Average: $2,400).

"Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" (M-G-M)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $6,500).

"Rainbow Island" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 4 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $2,500. (Average 7 days: $5,000).

"My Friend Flicka" (20th-Fox)
"Bambi" (RKO)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 5 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average, 7 days: $5,000).

"Lost in a Harem" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" (Para.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

'Emmanuel' Premiere Set

"Mr. Emmanuel," first J. Arthur Rank film which United Artists is releasing here, will have its world premiere at the Gotham, Saturday, Jan. 6. National release will be on Jan. 19.

PRC Has Backlog of 14 Films, McCarthy Says

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to distribute and exhibit pictures, because it permits more effective concentration in invoking the time values of films."

In dollar value, PRC's contracts show a 100 per cent minimum improvement over last year, McCarthy said, with the company selling more circuits for the first three months of the new season than "we've ever sold in a full year."

PRC now wholly owns eight branches and has options on a number that will bring the total up to 80 per cent wholly owned branches when they are exercised, McCarthy said. Eventually the company hopes to operate all its own exchanges. Although it has indirect theatre interests at the present time, no acquisitions in line with its announced policy have been made as yet, he said. This theatre expansion plan is one of anticipation rather than one for direct action, he observed.

When theatres are acquired by PRC, McCarthy said, they will be operated in order to show a profit and also to give the company "strategic show cases" to launch its product. The company will afford films at these houses a proper exploitation and selling, prefatory to national distribution.

PRC has a backlog of 14 pictures for 1944-'45: 10 finished and four in work, McCarthy said.

He reported that Jack Adams, Jr., former franchise holder in Dallas, will take over the office as Southern division manager Jan. 1; Fred Rohrs, former Southern division manager, takes over the new Midwest division which embraces St. Louis, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Kansas City, Omaha and Des Moines, while Sidney Kulick will have charge of a reorganized Eastern division including Boston, New York, Albany, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Washington.

Projectionists Raise New Year's Eve Rate

(Continued from page 1)

prices will prevail. In the Loop, the $3.25 hourly rate has been raised to $3.50 and $3.75, with double the normal wages effective after midnight.

Most local theatres have increased New Year's Eve admission prices, with the Chicago and Oriental in the Loop leading with tickets selling at $1.80.

Meet on Postwar News

Samuel H. Cuff, general manager of DuMont television station WABD, will speak on "Television as a News Medium" at a meeting of the Woman's Press Club at the Hotel Pennsylvania here tomorrow afternoon. Other speakers at the meeting, which will be devoted to the general topic of "News in the Postwar World," will be Paul White, CBS director of news broadcasts, and Claude A. Jagger, assistant general manager of the Associated Press.

Lauds Exhibitors On 6th Drive Work

(Continued from page 1)

of the drive the $14,000,000,000 goal looked pretty tough, and there was a bit of a doubt in my mind, but after the way the various industry workers pitched in, I soon felt confident that we would do a job. As a result, the Sixth War Loan will exceed its quota by approximately $6,500,000,000."

Brandt said exhibitors had established new records in the number of Bond Premieres, children's matinees and national Free Movie day shows throughout the country. He declared that the trade press's prestige has been considerably enhanced in the minds of exhibitors for its cooperative spirit and unstinted efforts on behalf of the drive.

Brandt leaves today for a short vacation before becoming active in another industry endeavor, the Red Cross drive.

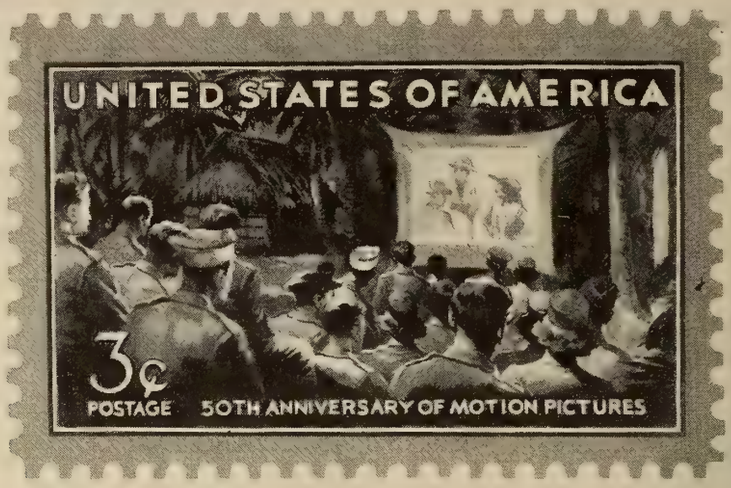
Legion Classifies 6 New Productions

The National Legion of Decency has classified the following new films during the past week: A-1, "Lake Placid Serenade," Republic, and "Keys of the Kingdom," 20th Century-Fox; A-2, "Dancing in Manhattan," Columbia; "Here Come the Waves," Paramount; "Murder, My Sweet," RKO, and "Music for Millions," M-G-M.

Variety Open House

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—The local Variety Tent will hold "open house" for members and friends Saturday night, Dec. 30.

Delighted friends of blonde skater Vera Hruba Ralston share her enthusiasm for one of the many brilliant, eye-catching skating spectacles in Republic's glittering ice musical, "LAKE PLACID SERENADE". ADVT.



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Official Recognition

"Movies tonight"—in a jungle clearing—is the appropriate illustration for the special postage stamp commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of motion pictures. The stamp itself is an expression of government appreciation of the contribution of the motion picture industry to the war effort.

The morale value of the entertainment films, given by the industry, receives national recognition—through this stamp. This fitting tribute brings a glow of satisfaction to everyone connected with the making and distributing of movies to camps, ships, rest centers, bases—wherever there's a G.I. audience to be brought "back home" for a little while.

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war

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